

TOWN OF EASTON



ANNUAL REPORT
2005

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Provided here are reports from our Officials, Commissions and heads of departments of the Town and General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2005. The information compiled provides residents of Easton with a comprehensive review of the operation of the Town, its finances, and educational system.

Your Board of Finance, who is charged with preparing this report, wishes to thank all who supplied the information and data included. We are grateful to Grace Stanczyk, who was responsible for overall coordination and planning.

Andrew Kachele, Chairman
Board of Finance

Cover Photograph:

Building History of Samuel Staples School

Provided by Edward Nagy

- 1930 Original Building Contains Six Classrooms and Auditorium
- 1945 Southwest Addition: Two Classrooms and Kindergarten Room
- 1948 East-West Section and East Wing Classrooms
- 1970 Adding of Upper Wing
- 1989 Addition of Media Center, Classrooms, More Administration Area, Interior Renovations of the Lower Wing, Code Compliance Upgrades and Building of the Senior Center
- 2001 Six Portable Classrooms Added

Photo By: Patti Popp

Provided By: Denise Sherwood, Chair
2005 Samuel Staples School
Memory Year Book Committee



Town of Easton

ANNUAL REPORT

Town Hall
Easton, Connecticut

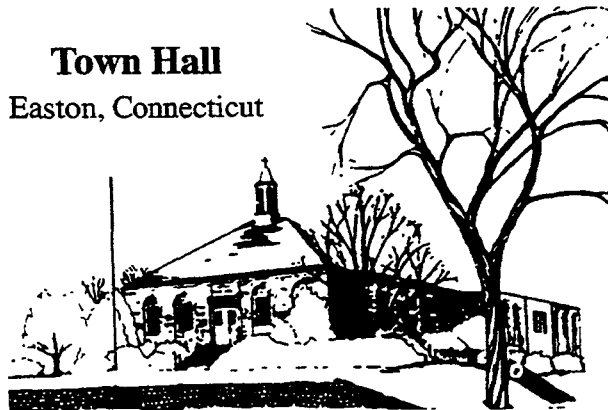


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GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Easton is governed by the Town Meeting (which is the Town's legislative body), the Board of Selectmen (its executive and administrative body), and the Board of Finance (its financial body). The Easton Board of Education is responsible for Town schools and the Regional Board of Education is responsible for Joel Barlow High School. These two boards of education share a central office staff with the Redding Board of Education.

The Town is administered through a three-member Board of Selectmen with the First Selectman being the chief executive officer of the Town. The Selectmen serve for two- year terms, which commence immediately following the election in odd numbered years. No more than two Selectmen can be from the same political party. The Selectmen hold regular meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:30 p.m., usually in the Town Hall conference room. Special meetings are held as required. Citizens are encouraged to attend meetings and time for public comment is allowed.

A number of able boards, commissions, committees, volunteers, and employees assist in the Town's operations. The reports of those entities are contained in this annual report and your attention is directed to them. Without the dedication of each of the individuals involved, Easton would suffer. With their dedication, Easton excels as a great place to live.

Late in 2005, Emmett Wallace who most recently served as a Selectman during the 2003-2005 elected term suffered an untimely death. In addition to his service on the Board of Selectmen, Emmett served the Town in many other capacities. Emmett was a true gentleman and will be missed. The Town, his family and many friends are less for his passing, but more for his having been with us.

During this past year, Easton continued work on its school facilities and brought the new Samuel Staples Elementary School into service. The design of the new school conforms well with the rural ambiance of the Town. We can all be proud of it. As with any new building, there are some initial issues to be resolved. The School Building Committee 2001 is attending to the closeout details and we expect the project to be concluded shortly.

The last item on the renovation and expansion of Helen Keller Middle School is being completed and the project should be closed out shortly.

The School Building Committee 2003 has overseen substantial corrections to "old" Samuel Staples Elementary School. As a result, when the Easton school use of old

Samuel Staples Elementary School was concluded in the Fall of 2005, the Town leased the southerly wing of the building to a private school, Phoenix Academy. Phoenix has been conducting classes in that wing of the building and will continue to do so for at least the next two years.

A Senior Center Building Committee has been appointed and is working on plans to move the Senior Center up to a portion of the northerly wing of the school. A grant in the amount of \$500,000.00 has been obtained and other grants are being sought. Once the Senior Center is out of its space on the lower level, a Town agency, possibly Parks and Recreation, will locate its offices in that area. Other portions of the northerly wing and eventually the southerly wing, when Phoenix Academy vacates, will be used for Town purposes. At present, we have used some of the area for storage. The Central Offices of the Easton/Redding Boards of Education, contemplates moving into a portion of the northerly wing, at least when its lease in Monroe expires.

There have been substantial difficulties with the construction renovations at Joel Barlow Regional High School. The Construction Completion Committee and the Financial Oversight Committee, appointed by the Regional Board of Education are working on resolution of these problems.

Since the new elementary school requires only a part of the Morehouse Road property purchased by the Town, we continue to look at other possible municipal uses on the property, which must be consistent with our goal of maintaining the rural character of the area and the streetscape along Morehouse Road to the greatest extent possible. Two new playing fields were constructed on the property at a favorable cost to the Town by the site contractor who was working on the school project. These fields should satisfy the need for Easton field space for the future and allow some rotation in use of all existing fields.

Pursuant to our Town ordinance, the Tax Relief for the Elderly Committee 2004 was appointed and reviewed our ordinance. The committee modified the ordinance slightly to strengthen it. The Board of Finance and the Town approved the revised ordinance, thereby continuing support for our seniors. The existing ordinance is one of the most beneficial to seniors in the entire State. The Tax Relief for the Elderly Committee continues to monitor the ordinance and a meeting of a Tax Relief for the Elderly Committee will be convened at an appropriate time for a more detailed review of the existing ordinance.

The contracts with each of the unions representing Town employees have been settled. Another round of negotiations will soon begin with respect to the Police and Fire. The Human Resources Advisory Committee continues to review individual positions and non-represented positions for recommendations to the Board of Finance.

The land purchased by the State from Aquarion for preservation as open space is to be managed by Aquarion, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the Nature Conservancy (which also contributed to the purchase) under a Land Management Agreement, which will provide for public input. Due to budgetary constraints at the Department of Environmental Protection, and to some extent at Aquarion, the work on the Land Management Agreement has not progressed as quickly as was anticipated. Nevertheless, by this purchase, approximately 35% of the land in Easton has been preserved in perpetuity as open space. With the other open space, protected land in Easton is somewhat in excess of 40% of the Town, making us a unique municipal jewel in Fairfield County.

Last year, a proposal for an age-restricted intensified development on South Park Avenue generated significant interest and controversy. At that year's end, our Planning and Zoning Commission denied the application. The developer has appealed the decision. Also, making good on his threat, the developer subsequently filed an affordable housing application for the property. That application was heavily contested. An engineering expert hired by the Town concluded that the community septic system posed a danger to the Mill River. Other environmental and health and safety dangers were also raised. The Conservation Commission rejected the application and the developer has appealed. As of the writing of this Annual Report, the Planning and Zoning Commission had not decided the affordable application. The developer will likely appeal if Planning and Zoning issues a denial. The Town is still looking into the possibility of other uses for the property, including a public park.

The application of United Illuminating/Northeast Utilities for an expansion of its transmission lines from Middletown to Norwalk is still pending before the Connecticut Siting Council. At this point, the primary proposed route still does not impact the Town of Easton, but rather runs underground through Fairfield County along Route 1.

The issue of Federal recognition for several Indian tribes still presents the possibility of future impacts upon Easton. At present, no recognition has been granted which would allow for the construction of a casino in southwestern Connecticut. We will continue to watch the situation.

The Town needs to continue to be aware of the challenges to its rural character. Easton and its neighboring towns continue to work to preserve the area's natural features. A recent initiative is the formation of the Saugatuck River Watershed Initiative to work on preservation of the watershed which includes the Aspetuck River, with Easton having about one third of the watershed within its boundaries.

In addition to these issues, the Board of Selectmen continues to oversee the day to day operations of the

Town. Citizens are encouraged to contact the First Selectman's Office with any questions they may have.

The Board of Selectmen thanks the many citizens who have contributed their time and expertise to the Town by serving on its boards, commissions, and committees. We also thank all of you for helping to continue to enhance Easton's special qualities.

The Board of Selectmen

William J. Kupinse, Jr., First Selectman
Emmett Wallace, Selectman (Deceased)
Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
Scott S. Centrella, Selectman

TOWN CLERK AND REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

The Town Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics are elected for a two year term. In Easton, the responsibilities are combined in one person. A brief summary of these responsibilities is listed below.

- Create, manage, preserve and maintain an archive of land records and other town records from the date of incorporation in 1845 until the present.
- Create and maintain an archival Daily, Grantor and Grantee Index of Land Records.
- Record and maintain an archival record of Births, Marriages, Deaths and Burials.
- Create, manage, preserve and maintain an archive of all town records including Minutes and Agendas of all Boards and Committees.
- Create, manage, preserve and maintain an archive of all Town Meeting Minutes and Records
- Manage the issuance, verification, collection and delivery of Absentee Ballot Applications and Ballots.
- Swear in all Officers and Members of all Boards and Commissions
- Issue Connecticut State Sports Licenses for residents and non-residents. This includes resident and non-resident: firearms; fishing; hunting and fishing; and firearms fishing and hunting. Resident: trapping; junior trapping and over age 65. Non-resident: three day fishing. Also included are HIP permits, handicapped; and junior firearms hunting.
- Sell Pheasant Tags; Migratory Bird Stamps as well as daily and lifetime fishing permits that are free to those age 65 years and older
- Sell Dog Licenses for all dogs 6 months old and older. Connecticut state statutes require that all dogs be licensed in the town in which they reside and have a valid rabies certificate that must be presented at the time of licensing. License fees are \$8 for spayed or neutered dogs and \$19 for male and female dogs. A certificate of spaying or neutering must be presented at the time of licensing. There is a \$1 late fee for each month or

fraction of a month that the license is late. Licenses are on sale in the month of June for the following license year that runs from July through June inclusive.

- Provide Notary services
- Provide certified copies of public records.
- Act as Sexton in all cemeteries where needed

Land Records and Maps

Agendas and Minutes

The State Statutes define that a primary function of the Town Clerk's office is to maintain and preserve an archival record of all of the Maps and Land Records relating to real estate transactions so that residents and the public can trace and verify titles to property. Similarly an archival record of the Agendas and Minutes of Boards and Commissions, Town Meetings and Town Ordinances must be maintained so that a traceable record of town governance issues is available to the public.

On assuming office in 2002, it became clear that the system simply could not handle the volume of documents and other work despite the best efforts of the office staff. In addition, the Minutes and Agendas were stored on non-archival paper in non-archival binders and were not indexed. As a result new procedures had to be established.

At that time we decided to proceed as follows:

- Clear up the backlog
- Establish as an operating procedure that "an average day's work must be completed each day on average." This is necessary to prevent the backlog from again growing into a large volume of unprocessed work.
- Establish systems capable of handling the work volume efficiently.
- Establish the staff levels needed to get the work done.
- Establish methods of dealing with the large increase in recording and other transactions.
- Establish office hours consistent with the work load and the staffing level
- It was apparent that new technology was required. However, the cost of a commercial solution was prohibitive. Instead a combination of commercial hardware and proprietary software was developed. Proprietary software was developed at no cost to the town and combined with commercial hardware. This results in a considerable cost saving to the town.

This strategy together with increased funding has permitted the following changes.

- New technology was developed to process the documents. This resulted in the development of a low cost system for handling the work volume.
- The imaging of all of the land records and maps so that these are now available to the public. This enables us to offer easy access to the information and to simplify the making of copies. At the same time we have been able to restrict access to the delicate old maps and records and help to preserve them.

- The imaging of all Minutes and Agendas in order to improve public access and facilitate search and copying in the future.

Long Term Objectives

Overall our long-term objectives are as follows:

- Establish a computerized point of sale system for all incoming documents and licenses. The intent is to simplify the accounting so that at the end of the day it is a simple matter to close the books and allocate funds to the appropriate accounts.
- Establish a computerized system for recording and indexing all Land Records and Maps
- Establish a computer database of images of all Land Records and Maps
- Establish a computerized system for recording and indexing all Minutes, Agendas, and other town records
- Make our own record volumes in order to reduce the cost and make the volumes available on the shelf immediately
- Establish a database of images of all Minutes, Agendas and other town records
- Establish the technology for printing copies of the Land Records, Maps, Minutes, Agendas and other archival town records.
- Make these records available on line to interested parties.
- Make applications for Absentee Ballots and Licenses available on line.
- Make available on-line a calendar of events and meetings in Easton.

Current Status

The current status of our long-term objectives is as follows:

- Since 2002 we have had our own point of sales system operating successfully. This system permits automatic registration and costing of the more than fifty products that we sell. It also records both the funds paid and the method of payment and allocates the funds to the appropriate accounts. At the end of the day it is a simple matter to close the books and account for all of the funds. This reduces errors and greatly simplifies the closing process. It also creates a comprehensive database of all transactions that permits us to evaluate transactions to correct any errors or omissions that occur.
- The same point of sale system permits us to mark incoming Land Records with a number, time and date of receipt as required by statute. It has now progressed to permit direct annotation of recording information on the image of the document.
- The point of sale system also permits annotating marginal notes, which is required by law, and which facilitates the maintenance of a dynamic image record database of Land Records.
- Since 2004 we have been making our own volumes.
- The database of images of Land Records and Maps is complete. Land Records are updated in real time as new records are received. Maps take longer since they are

sent out for scanning. Overall, this has reduced the need to refer to the original Maps or Records.

- Map Index and search software has been developed but has not yet been implemented.
- The Minutes and Agendas will be addressed next. The methods and approaches developed for the Land Records apply directly to the Minutes and Agendas
- The database of images of Minutes and Agendas awaits the completion of the work on Land Records and Maps.
- Some of the information, including a calendar of events is available on the town website. On line access to the Maps and Land Records awaits software development or town funding of commercial software acquisition.
- Budget constraints have not yet permitted the return to normal office hours

Home Sales

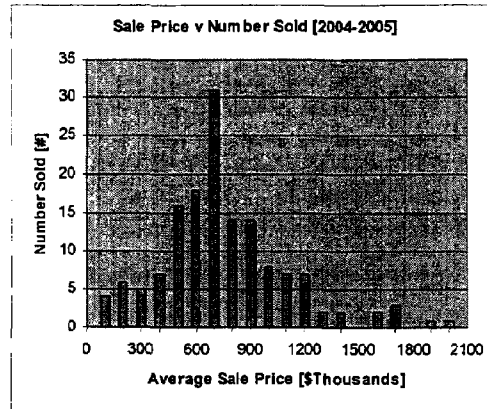
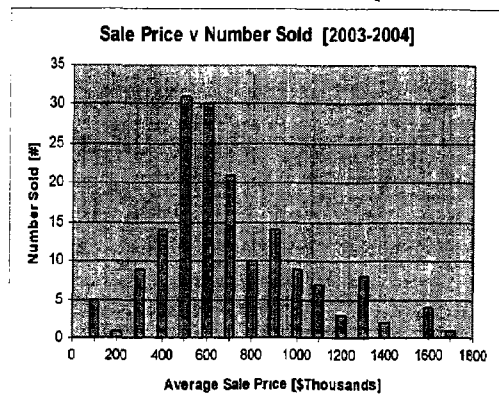
The table below compares fiscal year 2003-2004 with 2004-2005. In these years we recorded the following real estate transactions in which funds were exchanged:

	<u>2003-2004</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>Change</u>
Transactions	169	148	-12.4%
Average Sale Price	\$660,263	\$711,980	+7.8%
Median Sale Price	\$587,500	\$650,000	+10.6%
Maximum Price	\$1,670,000	\$1,950,000	+16.8%
Minimum Price	\$14,400	\$21,125	+46.7%
Total Value	\$111,774,129	\$105,373,008	-5.7%

These sales include developed and undeveloped lots and partial ownership positions, and both new and existing homes. They do not include refinancing.

Overall the average home price increased by 7.8% but the total number of transaction and the total sales value declined slightly. The median sales price increased by 10.6% and probably represents a better estimate of the increase in the value of homes sold. The increase in maximum sales price probably reflects the increasing new development of larger, expensive homes.

The charts below show the distribution of all of the sales in Easton for both fiscal years. The number of sales is represented in increments of \$100,000 of sale price. For example, last fiscal year 30 sales were consummated between \$500,000 and \$600,000 sale price



In both years there appears to be a tri-modal distribution of sales. At the lower end of the range the few sales below \$100,000 probably represent partial ownership, undeveloped lots, or special situations. At higher prices, above \$1,000,000 the transactions probably represent the newly built homes that tend to be larger and more expensive, or land sales. In the middle are average home sales

In 2003-2004 and 2004-2005, 76% and 73% of sales respectively, were between \$300,000 and \$1,000,000 and probably represent the average home sold.

Maps

All of Easton's maps are now available as images in a comprehensive database. This includes Land Record maps, Assessors maps, Roads, As-Built and Fire District maps. These can be reviewed on a computer screen and printed out in a variety of sizes including full size; letter; legal and ledger size. The plan is to make them available on the internet in the future

Marriage Licenses

Easton uses proprietary software to completely automate the process of license processing and generating an integrated database. The system uses an electronic version of the Marriage license form developed in conjunction with, and approved by, the State of Connecticut. The use of this system saves the town the significant expense of outside vendors. At the same time it facilitates simple reporting and searching. The software and form is approved for statewide use and has been adopted by many Town Clerks in Connecticut.

During the year we processed 18 Marriage Licenses, 14 Burial Certificates, 73 Birth Certificates and 38 Death Certificates.

Dog Licenses

Easton also uses proprietary software that automates the data entry and processing of dog licenses. This automates the printing of a license form approved by the Department of Agriculture for statewide use. It creates a comprehensive database for future use.

We have also initiated license renewal by mail. Details of the renewal by mail can be obtained from the Town Clerk's office, or off the town website www.eastonct.org

We are collecting email addresses so that we can build an email address book of dog owners. This year we were able to send out many renewal reminders by email as our email list increases. The intent is to collect as many email addresses as possible to minimize the cost of reminders and maximize the service to dog owners. The proprietary software saves us the significant expense of outside vendors.

The email program combined with a group of Seniors who volunteered to telephone all other dog owners has eliminated all mailing and printing expenses.

During the fiscal year we issued the following licenses:

Male - 101

Female - 64

Neutered - 514

Spaved - 479

Total - 1,158

Small Kennel - 6

The Total Fee paid was \$12,542.50.

This is 67 more dog licenses and \$1,676.50 more revenue compared to last year.

A small kennel can have up to 10 licenses.

Elections

The Town Clerk is responsible for processing Absentee Ballot Applications and Absentee Ballots. This requires verification that the voter is registered, retention of a record of who has applied and who has voted, and when, together with a record of which, and when, the ballots were delivered to the Registrar of Voters.

This year the work with the Assistant Registrar of Voters has continued to develop a computer based system that automates this entire process and permits real time review of the list of registered voters when an application, or a ballot, is requested. This system has been in place and used successfully for the last several votes and continues to evolve as we learn how to use it.

Website

The Easton Town website www.eastonct.org is divided in to departmental sectors. This year the Town clerk's section has been augmented by the addition of the following:

- Calendar of Meetings and Agendas
- List of Home Sales and Transfers
- List of Elected Officials
- Voter Information
- Voter Registration
- Some Ordinances

- Absentee Ballot information
- Marriage License Application
- Marriage License Information
- Dog License information
- Recording Information
- Election Results
- Upcoming Events
- Announcements

Volunteers

Some of the work was accomplished by members of the Easton community on a volunteer basis. A special thank you is due to these people for their effort and commitment. They include:

- Dr. Allen Fossbender, Superintendent of Schools, for permitting Joel Barlow High School students to assist under the Community Service program in the Town Clerk's office and elsewhere in the Town Hall.
- Joel Barlow High School program Supervisor Rosemary Riber
- Robert Manley, Joel Barlow High School teacher, for working with student Bessie Yeh to organize the map cabinets and other miscellaneous drawings and documents. This included re-indexing the information available on the Center Street Cemetery gravesites.
- Joel Barlow High School Justin Proffitt for indexing all of the maps.
- Senior volunteers for their commitment to multiple telephone calls to more than 1100 dog owners to make sure they were reminded that it was time to renew their dog license.

Summary

Our overall objective is to facilitate convenient access the Town Clerk's office, and the information stored there, for all the public including those who work or cannot get in during office hours. This is a major reason for implementing the town website and internet access to the records.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Assistant Town Clerks Joan Kirk and Deborah Szegedi for their assistance and continued and ardent efforts and cooperation in assuring the smooth running of the office during this extended period of change. I would also like to thank Registrars of Voters Eunice Hanson and Nick Soares, for their cooperation in ensuring the smooth running of town votes and Elections. Jim Bromer, Assistant Registrar of Voters, has been especially helpful in developing the software needed to manage the Absentee Voting applications and ballots.

Respectfully submitted,
W. Derek Buckley
Town Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics

TOWN TREASURER

The Treasurer is the town's banker who is responsible for receiving all money belonging to the Town, for paying out money on order of proper authority and maintaining public records of funds received and paid out. In addition, the Treasurer is responsible for obtaining maximum return on temporary investments of town funds and ensuring that cash is safely invested and available when required to meet the Town's financial obligations as they become due.

The Town Treasurer is elected for a two-year term in odd numbered years. The Treasurer operates an extensive investment program for the Town, income from which contributes substantially to the town's revenue. The range of short-term interest earned by the Town during the year was 1.20% to 6.25% as compared with 2.03% to 6.13% in the previous year.

Our ten-year historical results are summarized below:

Year Ended June 30	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2005	377,295	33,453	410,748
2004	284,974	21,108	306,082
2003	308,677	13,123	321,800
2002	468,777	63,378	532,155
2001	770,095	24,214	794,309
2000	492,581	15,030	507,611
1999	406,253	16,767	423,020
1998	398,995	6,770	405,765
1997	398,706	7,392	406,098
1996	491,984	4,856	496,840

Historically, the Treasurer's office acts as the Town's accounting department. As the town grows, so does the activity in the Treasurer office. This was another important year for the Treasurer's office as we oversaw cash in and outflows for the new elementary school project which totals over \$31MM. Our office has handled in a 12 month period over \$27MM of cumulative expenditures for the school project in addition to managing the budget needs for the Town. We issued our second round of \$9.6MM of financing for the new elementary school project and our Town's credit rating of Aa1 was affirmed by Moody's Investor Services. We have permanently financed over 85% of the project and have saved the Town over \$1.5MM in interest costs over the life of bonds by capitalizing on historically low interest rates.

Grace Stanczyk, the Town Comptroller, has been an instrumental liaison for the new elementary school project in providing assistance to all parties involved. Her countless hours and attention to detail have been invaluable to this project. I wish to express my appreciation to Grace for her dedication and assistance in the important role as Comptroller she plays for the Town. Our success would not be possible without also thanking Kathleen Loudon and Diane Zadrozny for their

performance and assistance in helping make our office run so efficiently.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Ryan McCauley, Treasurer

TOWN ATTORNEY

Since November of 1997, there has been no single Town attorney for Easton. During the 2004-2005 fiscal year, the interests of the Town of Easton and its agencies were represented by several different lawyers. At its meeting of September 2, 2004, the Board of Selectmen changed the method of selecting attorneys. Attorneys are now selected not by the First Selectman, but by the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen currently has under consideration, a comprehensive policy dealing with the issue of Town attorneys.

Legal representation is required not only when the Town is a party to litigation, such as in an appeal from an agency decision, but also in connection with more routine matters. In some instances, the interests of the Town are protected by lawyers supplied by our insurance company in a matter where there is insurance coverage.

During the 2004-2005 fiscal year, and into the start of the 2005-2006 fiscal year, Easton was required to make greater use of attorneys than in the prior fiscal years. Attorneys have primarily represented the Town and its agencies in connection with land use, labor, tax assessment and bonding matters. A number of opinions on legal questions have also been needed. More specifically, Easton was represented in connection with the arbitration of the collective bargaining agreement for Police which was required by the union rejection of the negotiated contract, represented in connection with the proposed affordable housing development and age-restricted housing development on South Park Avenue, represented in connection with several employment matters, and represented in connection with several Freedom of Information matters.

Easton, along with a number of other towns, also continues as a defendant in an action claiming that some of the solid waste from the Town, which was claimed to contain hazardous materials, had been delivered to a site in New Jersey. Part of that litigation was resolved without significant cost to the Town. There is still a continuing portion of that litigation which hopefully should eventually be resolved in a similar manner. Unfortunately, although Easton contributed little by way of solid waste to the New Jersey site and no hazardous materials, the Town continues to be involved in the environmental litigation, which has a substantial exposure and expense to Easton along with the numerous other defendants who are involved.

The attorneys who have worked for the Town on its various matters express their thanks for the cooperation of the various Town officials.

TAX COLLECTOR

As taxation is a state function, the Tax Collector is governed by state law. Municipalities have no powers of taxation other than those specifically granted by the General Assembly and described in the General Statutes. The Tax Collector performs the duties and exercises the powers prescribed by state law under the supervision of the State Office of Policy and Management. The Tax Collector is elected by the townspeople in odd-numbered years for a two-year term.

The Tax Collector performs administrative functions as follows: plans, organizes, directs and participates in the tax billing and collection activities of the Town with regard to real estate, motor vehicle and personal property taxes in accordance with the established collection cycle; organizes and supervises the preparation and processing of all tax bills; receives, reconciles and deposits tax collections in a timely fashion and turns all monies received over to the Treasurer for deposit in the general fund; oversees the preparation of rate books; prepares tax warrants, rate bills and legal notices; updates, balances and reconciles rate books; prepares reports, records and statistical surveys for the Treasurer, Board of Finance, First Selectman, external auditors, Office of Policy and Management, and U.S. Department of the Census on a regular basis; prepares for the annual external audit.

Also: coordinates with the Assessor and Town Clerk the recording of new and changed property tax information; computes and records certificates of change and lawful corrections in accordance with Sec. 12-167(5); computes and issues prorated motor vehicle tax credits for vehicles that were sold, stolen or totally damaged during the tax year in accordance with PA 82-459; coordinates activities with the Board of Tax Review; prepares paperwork for issuing tax refunds in accordance with Sec. 12-129 and maintains all records of same; coordinates escrow payment systems with financial institutions holding mortgages on properties located in town; prepares revenue loss reports for the state regarding totally disabled, elderly freeze and circuit breaker state tax relief programs; administers the Town tax relief for elderly resident homeowners program according to Town ordinance; performs arithmetic computations with accuracy and maintains records in accordance with generally accepted accounting and bookkeeping practices and principles.

Also: prepares and files a suspense tax list in accordance with Sec. 12-165 and 167 and records suspense collections if and when received; prepares a list of delinquent taxes, indicating list year, amount of tax, interest and lien fees due, and last known address; sends delinquent notices and demands twice yearly in accordance with Sec. 12-155;

implements collection enforcement procedures against delinquent taxpayers and confers with delinquent taxpayers to arrange payment plans; arranges jeopardy tax collections in accordance with Sec. 12-163; files claims with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for taxes and fees due from bankrupt taxpayers; files tax liens against real property on which delinquent taxes are due at the end of the fiscal year and releases liens when taxes are paid in accordance with Sec. 12-172; prepares and submits to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) listings of delinquent motor vehicle taxpayers and promptly submits follow-up reports when taxes are paid; directs DMV to withhold registrations of delinquent motor vehicle taxpayers in accordance with Sec. 14-33 and 33(a); directs DMV to suspend registrations of taxpayers whose checks in payment of motor vehicle taxes are returned to the Town unpaid.

Also: prepares and recommends an operating budget for the office; organizes, maintains and updates filing systems for the retention of required information and public records; provides information to attorneys, banking officials, town officials and the public regarding tax data and office procedures and policy; confers with the Office of Policy and Management, Assessors, Town Clerk, Comptroller, Treasurer, external auditors, Selectmen and Town Attorney on matters relating to the collection of taxes; posts to rate books every payment made, indicating amount paid and date of payment, and maintains backup records of same; attends regular meetings and a yearly seminar on tax collection with the Connecticut Tax Collector's Association as required by state statute, and in conjunction with the association drafts proposed legislation regarding tax collection for submission to the General Assembly; and deals with the public on a daily basis.

Tax bills on the October 1, 2003 grand list were issued at the rate of 23.6 mills, which is equivalent to \$23.60 in taxes per \$1,000 of net assessed property value. Real estate and personal property tax bills exceeding \$100 were payable in two installments, due July 1, 2004 and January 1, 2005. Motor vehicle taxes were due in full July 1, 2004. Supplemental motor vehicle taxes for newly acquired motor vehicles registered subsequent to October 1, 2003 were due in full January 1, 2005 in accordance with PA 77-343.

Taxpayers have one month from the respective due date in which to pay without penalty, after which interest is collected at the rate of 1-1/2% per month from the due date, in accordance with the state law. The Tax Collector has no discretion in the application of conditions or methods of levy or collection of taxes, and does not have the authority to waive the interest due on delinquent tax bills. As a matter of law, the taxpayer becomes liable to the Town for the tax due by virtue of his ownership of the property; the liability is neither created by nor dependent upon the receipt of a tax bill, and the failure to receive a bill does not relieve the taxpayer of the responsibility to

pay the statutorily-required interest due on the late payment.

The 2003 list administration of the Town Tax Relief for Elderly Resident Homeowners program involved 264 applications. A total of \$325,342 in relief to 258 qualified applicants was given.

The Tax Collector is in full compliance with State of Connecticut revenue collection reporting obligations, and copies of the following reports are on file in the Town Clerk's Office:

- a. Tax Collector's Report of Collections, Sec.12-167(1-3). A total of \$28,599,342 in taxes, interest and lien fees was collected during fiscal year 2004-2005.
- b. Report of certificates of change and lawful corrections, Sec. 12-167(5) detailing all additions to and deductions from tax rolls according to list year, name, amount and reason. A total of \$287,448 in additions, and \$141,930 in deductions were made to the grand lists of 2000-2003.
- c. Report of transfers to suspense, Sec. 12-165 and 167, detailing list year, name, amount and reason. A total of \$19,750 was transferred to suspense from the grand lists of 1999 and 2001.
- d. Report of refunds, Sec.12-129, detailing list year, name, amount and reason. A total of 178 refunds were given, totaling \$47,939 on the grand lists of 2000-2003.
- e. Liens: 42 liens for unpaid real estate taxes on the 2003 grand list were filed on June 30, 2005. Copies of these liens and all lien releases are on file in the town land records.

I am grateful to the townspeople for their support and for giving me the opportunity to serve as Tax Collector. I would also like to thank my assistant, Janice Greiser, and Jane Allen, my temporary help, for their professional and loyal support.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrice Hildenbrand, CCMC, Tax Collector
Janice Greiser, Assistant Tax Collector

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT ON COLLECTIONS

Fiscal Year Ending 6/30/2005
(Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 12-167(1-3))

List Year	2003	1987-2002
Total amount of unpaid taxes on each rate bill at start of fiscal year.	\$28,229,008	\$578,015
Lawful corrections	+154,412	-6,609
Suspense	-0-	-19,750
Total amount collected each rate bill during the fiscal year (tax, int., lien)	T: 28,210,932 I: 73,582 L: 217	232,654 80,877 1,080
Total amount uncollected on each rate bill at end of fiscal year (excluding interest & liens)	\$172,488	\$319,002

ASSESSOR

It is the responsibility of the Assessor's office primarily to list and assess all taxable and non-taxable properties located in the town of Easton. The three categories of taxable properties are Real Estate, Motor Vehicles, and Personal Property, such as office equipment, underground mains, hydrants, tunnels, unregistered motor vehicles, meters, towers, etc. The basic value of Real Property is determined by a physical inspection of the land and all structures located thereon, these structures and improvements include dwellings, garages, barns, sheds, pools, tennis courts, and gazeboes.

The Assessor works with the Building Official and his office. Once a month the building department provides a list of building permits for the Assessor, she then proceeds to the property in question to measure any new construction a few times during the year. In addition to measuring, she also lists and assesses the property for tax purposes. Total values are equalized by the use of cost schedules and application of appraisal techniques. The valuation process requires skill, specialized training, experience and use of sound judgment. She then inputs all information in the computer by sketching the structure or structures and any additions, porches, pools or sheds that are included in the building permit.

The Assessor coordinates with the Tax Collector and Town Clerk on any new changes in property ownership, foreclosure, etc., and records them on the owner's field

card and puts all information in the computer. Deeds are proof read. Properties are then determined to be useable or non-useable sales, which must be reported monthly to the State. All files, map book, street books, and filed cards are constantly updated as to changes of ownership and all changes are entered into the computer.

During the tax year, the Assessor and her assistant price and pro rate motor vehicle assessments for vehicles sold, stolen or totaled in accordance with section 12-71 and issues lawful certificates of correction in accordance with section 12-60 of the general statutes.

Services are also offered to all taxpayers who may have questions regarding their assessments. If the need arises, home visits are also made personally by the Assessor when ever necessary, to assist the physically handicapped taxpayer.

On matters relating to tax assessments and elderly forms, the Assessors office prepares the forms for freeze and circuit breaker homeowner's forms. The Assessors office calculates the forms for the elderly to be sent to the state for approval. The tax relief for the elderly is also the responsibility of our office.

All veterans' exemptions and personal property are reviewed and up dated yearly. Reductions are granted for solar exemption, low-income veterans, disabilities and the blind.

The Assessors office implements all public Act 490 Farm and Forest reductions. The forms are checked yearly for those eligible for a farm exemption to make sure that Taxpayers are complying by the State Statutes.

Survey maps are updated yearly, and transferred onto the Assessors maps. The Assessor reads the A-2 survey maps and computes the acreage and values the subdivision, and or survey to adjust the acreage. A property card is then made up with corrections or additions. She then inputs the information in the computer for tax bills for the following year

Services are provided to Town officials, departments, and/or commissions, surveyors, attorneys, title searchers, real estate appraisers, F.B.I., United States Internal Revenue Services, etc.

Streets and addresses are updated for the Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications for the Department of Public Safety Division of Fire, Emergency, and Building Services. New streets and house numbers are checked for correction and addition

The Assessor must interpret and put into effect any Connecticut public acts and statutes that are passed each year by State legislature. The acts and statutes are in constant flux; each year many of them are either modified, eliminated, and/or superseded by new laws.

The Office of Policy and Management determines the responsibility of the Assessor's office through general statutes of the State of Connecticut.

SUMMARY OF 2004 AND 2005 GRAND LIST

Number of Assessment Lists	2004	2005	Difference
Real Estate	3,344	3,358	+14
Personal Property	348	382	+19
Motor Vehicles	7,600	7,575	-25

Gross Value of Taxable Property	2004	2005	Increase
Real Estate	1,117,471,670	1,123,540,780	+6,069,110
Personal Property	12,073,350	13,394,935	+1,321,585
Motor Vehicles	72,677,103	73,948,755	+1,271,652
Freeze	799,900	526,760	-273,140
Circuit Breaker	25,203,470	26,486,740	+1,283,270
TOTAL	1,228,225,493	1,237,897,970	+9,672,473

Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Rainieri, CCMA - Assessor
Louise Oakes, Assessor's Assistant

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

As elected State Officials, the Registrar of Voters are responsible for the administration of the electoral process in a fair and equitable manner to guarantee and preserve the voting rights of all citizens. The Registrars are elected every two years during the even numbered years. Each Registrar, immediately upon election appoints a deputy who shall assist the registrar in the performance of their duties.

Every year, pursuant to section 9-32 of Connecticut General Statutes, the registrars must conduct a canvass of the Town for the purpose of ascertaining the numbers of eligible voters that may participate in such election, or referenda. The canvass must begin in March each year and all respondents are logged to insure the integrity of the voting lists.

The Registrars position has become and is increasing in scope to a real complex assignment .The advent of the results and confusion of the 2002 Election has caused the country to reassess the whole process. The future is going to incorporate new methods and machines and ballots. It is anticipated that the new machinery will be in place and effective for the 2007 election.

We are in the office every Thursday from (9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.). You may call us at 268-6291 with your questions.

As of February 9, 2005 there were 5,126 registered voters in Easton, broken down as follows.

Republicans	1,794
Democrats	1,012
Unaffiliated	2,310
Other	10
Total Registered Voters	5,126

Respectfully submitted,
Eunice K. Hanson, Republican Registrar
Nicholas V. Soares, Jr., Democratic Registrar

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Building Department includes the services required for State of Connecticut Building Codes. It includes one (1) person certified by the State of Connecticut as a Building Official.

The Building Department office is located in the Town Hall and is supported by a part-time secretary who maintains the records and accounting of permits and fees. All types of new construction is received and subsequently permitted through the Building Department.

The Building Department is open:
Daily 8:30 - 12:30 and 1:00 - 4:30

Subsequent permits are also issued for repair and alterations, pools, plumbing, heating and electrical work. The Building Official performs all field inspections relative to the aforementioned work. Enforcement of the State of Connecticut Building Code is paramount to the duties of the official

The Connecticut General Statutes 29-252-1a, adopts as a reference code the 1996 "BOCA Building Code", including the BOCA Mechanical and Plumbing Codes, 2003 ICC International Residential Code, and National Electric Codes and N.F.P.A. update.

The Building Department researches public record and offers information and assistance for the safety and welfare of the public.

The Building Official prepares an annual operating budget for activities under his control and is responsible for the maintenance of building plans and records. He determines and initiates regulatory or legal action in cases of violation of building code ordinances

The Building Department offers its expertise and services to the citizens of Easton and welcomes anyone to visit the department with their building problems or questions

Respectfully submitted,
E. William Martin, Building Official

BUILDING & ZONING PERMITS	NO. OF PERMITS ISSUED	ESTIMATED VALUE
New Residences	11	\$4,588,540.00
Additions, Alterations & Repairs to Existing Buildings	81	\$3,105,030.00
New Non-Res. Structures (i.e. barns, garages, etc.)	47	\$1,121,486.00
Swimming Pools	25	\$936,000.00
Affordable Housing	0	
Caretakers	0	
Tennis Courts	0	
Wood Stoves	0	
Demolition	4	\$21,200.00
New School	0	\$1,761,000.00
New Roof School	0	\$237,300.00
Total	155	\$11,770,556.00
Electrical	189	
Plumbing	140	
Heating & Air Conditioning	84	
Tanks, i.e. oil etc.	145	
Total	558	

MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY

The municipal Agent is a person who is available and responds to the senior population of the community. This is a state-mandated position. The agent receives many diverse requests and endeavors to have a truly responsive system of community services, which will enable Easton seniors to live their lives with independence and dignity.

The Municipal Agent is a separate department by itself although housed in the senior center. A monthly newsletter is sent to all households, which have someone over age 50 living in them. This newsletter, which is combined with the Senior Center program, continues to be the chief means of disseminating information regarding resources and benefits.

In addition to the Municipal Agent who has office hours from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm every working day at the Senior Center, outreach worker, Pamela Healy, is also available to visit homebound or seniors who have been referred to us needing a visit. She is a much-valued extension to the

Municipal Agent and can provide needed information as well as a warm personality and good listening skills.

A very successful seminar Identity Theft – It Could Happen to You was sponsored by the Commission on Aging. Stephen J. Sedensky III, senior assistant state attorney for the Danbury Judicial District presented very valuable information.

Keeping loved ones in their own homes is a priority. Outreach Worker, Pam Healy, has an ever-growing list of private home-health aides and caretakers. References are checked before the individual is added to the list. Information about the pros and cons of hiring private pay individuals against those of an agency is also given to those requesting this list.

Paying for prescription drugs is a major concern for seniors. The Municipal Agent has begun informing seniors about the new Medicare Part D program, which will begin in November. This will be a major undertaking and require the dissemination of much, complicated information.

Two website that are very useful for seniors and their family members are www.benefitscheckup.org and www.medicare.gov. The Area on Aging website; www.swcaa.org is especially helpful for information regarding state and local programs.

Issues dealing with family adjustment to aging and health problems are also a concern. More children of the elderly are calling and requesting help in dealing with them. The Municipal Agent sends newsletters to those relatives who request them. This helps them to be aware of benefits available to their loved ones. Cases of self-neglect and inability to cope are growing and, at times, have been referred to the State Department of Protective Services. The Municipal Agent is mandated to report these cases.

It is hoped that Easton seniors will continue to ask for assistance. The Municipal Agent and outreach Worker, Pam

It is hoped that Easton seniors will continue to ask for assistance. The Municipal Agent and outreach Worker, Pam Healy, will be happy to serve them.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia R. Finick, Municipal Agent

EASTON SENIOR CENTER

The Easton Senior Center continues to expand its programs to the benefit of all seniors, the town of Easton and the community at large.

During the latter part of 2005 a building committee was appointed by the Board of Selectmen to tackle the renovation of the upper part of the original 1930's section of the old Samuel Staples School in order to expand the senior center. Kudos to Chairman John Bromer and other members, Paul Altieri, Joseph Schettino, Foster McKeon and Rocky Sullivan who continue to work hard on the project and correspondingly take time away from their families for the benefit of all seniors. It is hoped that the project will be completed in November 2007. The new Senior Center is projected to be approximately 12,000 square feet.

I am in the process of applying for a larger grant of \$750,000 to be used with the \$500,000 presently in place to ensure that there are enough funds for the project without imposing any further tax burden on the very residents we are trying to help. If such funds are not available, the project will be tailored to fit the availability of funds.

Thanks to so many Easton Senior Center volunteers from both the town and the region we were able to raise \$50,000 this year to provide programs for the center. We continue to be self-sufficient in this respect. In the last seventeen years close to \$900,000 has been donated by corporations, foundations, businesses and residents to continue the mission of providing educational, cultural, and social programs at the center.

Outreach continues to be an integral part of senior center life. This year we have worked closely with the "Child First" program at Bridgeport Hospital to provide warm clothes for needy children as well as to provide food baskets at the holiday seasons. To this end we joined forces with Girl Scouts, Brownies, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts as well as the students in Notre Dame Roman Catholic Religious Education Classes and also with students at Easton Schools, in such joint ventures as food, clothing and children's clothes collections. At Thanksgiving we were all able to send seventy six Turkey dinners to needy families in the inner city.

Our "Giving Tree" at the Christmas Holiday Season was decorated with over three hundred hats, scarves and gloves. These were hand-knitted by the Easton Senior Center knitting group and other residents. It was amazing to share the joy as the administrators of the "Child First" program prepared all the items for transportation to needy families.

One of the most exciting new projects this year is the new Easton Directory. After a little trepidation, the Easton Senior Center Advisory Board decided to fund raise for this very popular Easton necessity. It has been very obvious for a while that no other organization really wanted to attempt this project. To date funds have been collected from advertising and generous donations from residents. Chairpersons, Janet Gordon and Prabha Gupta have a great team assisting them in their endeavors. Special thanks to Dr. and Mrs. Sal Santella, Anne Fiyalka, Alice Weissman and Joan Kirk for all their efforts. It is hoped that the new Easton Directory will be in print by June first. The tradition of providing a free copy to all advertisers and residents will continue.

The Easton Tax Relief for the Elderly Committee also worked hard this year to pass the new ordinance to provide even more benefits for seniors. Tax relief is paid according to income, taxes paid and fraction of the property owned. My special thanks to Vice Chair, Ren Gordon, and committee members Jennifer Alves, Larry Bartz, Linda Dollard, Walter Eastwood, Pat Finick and Dr. Claire Paolini for all their assistance and support with this important project, Derek Buckley, Town Clerk for his efforts in developing the application and software and assisting in the execution and to Walter Eastwood and Kay Oestreicher for taking the time to meet with individual seniors to calculate their tax relief.

Finally, as we move into our seventeenth year, I would like to thank all the residents and friends that continue to be the lifeline of the center, especially my volunteers and my hard-working assistant Kay Oestreicher, without which my life would be so exhausting. Thanks also to the members of the Easton Senior Center Advisory Board, Walter Eastwood (past Chair now retired) Anne Fiyalka, (present Chair), Attorney Sharon Cregeen, Robert Factor, Janet Gordon, Prabha Gupta, Joan Kirk, Jane Kondratovich, (now retired) Dr. Claire Paolini, Marilyn Santella, Dr. Sal Santella, Ken Sumner (now retired), Attorney Robert Tellalian (ex officio) and Alice Weissman, all who continue to be an extraordinary support system.

Respectfully submitted,
Val Buckley, Director
Chairperson, Tax Relief for the Elderly Committee

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Health Department's Office is located in the Town Hall and is supported by a Director of Health, a Health Officer along with a secretarial staff who maintains the records and accounting of permits and fees.

Our department covers a multitude of responsibilities. We issue septic and well permits, food service permits, inspect day care centers and schools, and respond to all complaints of a public health nature. We routinely monitor communicable infections, working closing with the Epidemiology Section of the State Health Department. We send ticks free of charge to the New Haven Agricultural Experiment Station to test for the Lyme disease carrier. We have free literature covering a wide array of public health topics that we keep available to local residents.

We have again had a very busy year. Dr. Michos worked very closely with Val Buckley in obtaining enough flu vaccines to run several very successful clinics at the Easton Senior Center. Dr. Michos was also instrumental in helping to organize a Christmas toy drive that involved the receipt of a free CO detector in exchange for donating a toy to be distributed to the needy by the Easton Senior Center.

Throughout the year we attended numerous training seminars in bioterrorism, emergency preparedness, food service sanitation, sewage disposal, drinking water safety, and public health education. We used grant monies from the Department of Public Health to hire a part-time field worker to help with the seasonal demands for soil testing and site inspections. We also worked closely with the local schools and newspapers in addressing various public health topics.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher Michos MD, Director of Health
Polly Edwards RS, Health Officer

	Permits Issued	Permit Fees
Septic (new)	33	\$4,000.00
Septic (repair)	8	\$600.00
Septic (review)	112	\$5,600.00
Wells	26	\$1,300.00
Soil Test	66	\$2,310.00
Food Service	17	\$1,045.00
Total	262	\$14,855.00

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

PUBLIC WORKS

The Easton Public Works Department continued in its efforts to maintain and improve the 94.15 miles of roads and in caring for other Department responsibilities.

The department's duties include: snow and ice removal during the winter season; street sweeping; pot hole repairs; roadside mowing; guide rail repairs; installation and repair of street and traffic signs; tree and brush removal; installation and repair of curbing; and maintaining Town bridges, road paving, drainage installation, and catch basin cleaning.

Though the department is a much varied and capable unit dealing with many facets of road construction and repair, the department is most always in people's minds when snow and icy roads occur. Easton had a total of 71" inches of snowfall, which required the Department to plow on 18 different occasions. Sanding of the Town roads occurred 38 times consuming 7,731 tons of sand and salt mixture in the process.

The Public Works Department's spring and summer months are used to prepare roads that will be involved in the Town's chip sealing program for that year. Included in the preparation of the roads are brush cutting, grading back the road edges, removal of boulders from under the existing pavement, patching of these holes, installation of any needed drainage or repairs to existing drainage, sweeping of the road and the application of a leveling course of asphalt to maintain proper drainage, which leads to the application of liquid asphalt and then covered with a layer of 3/8" Trap Rock. The program comes to its completion about a month later when the excess stone is swept up. During the past year, 12.70 miles of road were involved in this program, with the use of 56,524 gallons of road oil, 1,988 tons of 3/8" Stone and 3,496 tons of bituminous concrete. This past year the Department's drainage program entailed:

- 7 New catch basins were installed
- 22 Catch basins repaired or rebuilt
- 542 Feet of storm pipe drainage installed

The Department takes care of all street and traffic control signs on the Town's roads. This past year saw 51 signs and posts repaired or replaced.

The extension of Riverside Lane was accepted as a Town road.

The department purchased a new 17,500 GVW dump truck with snowplow, and a new John Deere Tractor with Roadside Boom mower.

For 10 weeks during the fiscal year a bucket truck was rented so that the Town's crew was able to render needed

attention to dead trees and hazardous limbs hanging over Town roadways. This work was done in unison with the Town Tree Warden.

Applications for 39 driveway permits and 18 road-opening permits brought in \$1,425 in fees.

Work outside of the Public Works Department accounted for over 621 hours of work throughout the Town in unison with the Park and Recreation Department, Board of Education, Town Hall, Library, Easton Police Department, Easton Fire Department, Conservation Commission and the Garden Club.

The Department again joined the Easton Garden Club for the 27th annual Green and Clean Day, which are held to encourage residents to join in and clean up all roadside debris in Town. The Department set up a drop-off area and took care of the disposal of the collected debris.

In addition, former highway supervisor Frank Rotini retired on April 8, 2005 after 30 years of service.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward Nagy, P.E. - Director of Public Works/Town Engineer

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

BOARD OF FINANCE

The Board of Finance, operating within the general statutes of the State, is responsible for all Town government finances. The Board is composed of six members elected for six year terms. At each biennial Town election two of these members are elected. In addition, there are three alternate members appointed by the Board of Selectmen. These alternates may serve at Board meetings in the absence of an elected member. The Board meets monthly, with special meetings called for annual budget reviews and as required for other purposes.

In the performance of its duties, the Board exercises all administrative functions necessary in preparing the annual budget for the Town. This process includes discussing with Town officials and department heads their proposed operating and capital expenditures, after which these requests are presented at a public budget hearing for questions and comments. The Board then prepares a final budget which is presented to the Town at the Annual Budget Meeting held on the last Monday in April in conjunction with the Annual Town Meeting. Once the Town approves a budget, the Board sets the tax rate for the ensuing year.

The Board is responsible for selecting an auditor of Town funds and publishing an Annual Town Report. During the year, the Board's concerns are focused on maintaining Town operations and departmental expenditures within

approved budget limits. The Board acts to approve transfers between budget line items and special appropriations when necessary.

The 2004-2005 Town Budget in the amount of \$30,484,327 included appropriations of \$8,818,245 in the Selectman's accounts, \$11,575,725 for the Easton Board of Education, and \$6,544,827 for the Region 9 Board of Education. On the basis of a Grand List of \$1,211,947,615 the Board set a tax rate of 23.6 mills for the fiscal year July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005.

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Board of Assessment Appeals met for public sessions in fiscal year 2005-2006 during the month of March, instead of the prescribed February due to a change in State Statutes. The Board of Assessment Appeals also met in September of 2005 for Motor Vehicles.

The March sessions were for taxpayers with a grievance on either Personal or Real Estate property assessments. The September sessions were for motor vehicles only.

Tax payers by State Statute must file a form prescribed by law no later than February 20th in order to appeal their assessment.

All of these sessions were held under the direction of the State Statutes, by which the Board of Assessment Appeals also receives its authority.

Board Members

Hugh J. Barry, Chairman
Judy Weinstein
Donald Calvert
Lori Mezes
Lawrence Palaia

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

During the Town's fiscal year, which began July 1, 2004, the Commission completed work on its proposed Town Plan of Conservation and Development for Easton. The research and mapping for the Plan was presented at public hearings during the autumn of 2005. The Town Plan report presents analysis and recommendations in twelve basic areas: planning policy, regional issues, natural environment, population, land use, public facilities, historical and cultural resources, transportation, economic trends, village conservation areas, the comprehensive plan, and a program of action. A major focus of the Plan is on conservation of the town's natural resources and its attractive rural residential character.

The continuing decline in Easton in the amount of vacant land suitable for development has influenced the character of recent subdivision applications submitted to the Commission. Only one new subdivision application was

received during the year, resulting in but one new residential building site. Six special permit applications were considered, of which five were approved and one was denied. A number of well-attended hearings were devoted to an application for a change of zone and proposal for a 44-unit age-restricted housing development on South Park Avenue; this proposal was unanimously denied by the Commission in December 2004. Among the special uses approved by the Commission were plans for a church to be located at 500 Sport Hill Road, St. Dimitrie Romanian Orthodox Church. This new church, of 14,000 square feet on two levels, will accommodate 284 persons at services and will include a variety of meeting spaces as well as 109 on-site parking spaces.

Ten zoning permits for new house construction and 158 permits for accessory buildings, additions and repairs were issued during the fiscal year.

The Planning and Zoning Commission has been delegated the responsibility to conduct hearings and advise the Board of Selectmen on applications for Scenic Road alterations, in accordance with Section V of the Easton Scenic Road Ordinance. Four scenic road applications were heard during the fiscal year and reported favorably with recommendations.

The Planning and Zoning Commission is composed of five regular members appointed to staggered five-year terms by the Board of Selectmen, as well as three alternate members who normally serve shorter terms.

Starting in January 2006 the Planning and Zoning Commission will meet the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 6:00 p.m. The Commission holds duly warned public hearings and informal courtesy discussions on zoning and subdivision matters. It constantly studies and debates the need for regulations revisions in the best interest of the Town. Public hearings are scheduled at appropriate times to discuss proposed revisions and seek input from the townspeople. Inquires on development questions may be submitted to the Commission staff during regular hours at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Maquat, Chairman

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Easton consists of five regular members and three alternate members who meet on the first Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in the Easton Town Hall. Regular members are elected for a term of six years and are empowered by the Connecticut General Statutes, as are the alternate members under Section 8-5. In accordance with an ordinance effective March 6, 1974, alternates are appointed by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Easton for a term of six years.

During the fiscal year 2004-2005 the Zoning Board of Appeals met in session on ten occasions and heard 14 appeals with variances granted to ten applicants, two withdrawals of applications and two denials of variance applications.

Respectfully submitted,
John Harris, Chairman

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Easton's Conservation Commission acts as the Town's Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency as well as the Conservation Commission.

As the Inland Wetlands Agency, it enforces the provisions of the State of Connecticut's Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act. In this capacity, it reviews applications to conduct regulated activities, conducts site visits, and, if appropriate, holds public hearings prior to approving or denying a permit request. During the fiscal year from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005, thirty-seven applications were received: one was denied without prejudice, and thirty-six were approved; and of the thirty-seven applications received, two required public hearings. There were two 'as-of-right' requests. One was approved, and one was denied. There were six requests for extension of times. Four were approved, and two were denied. Seven violations were issued.

The Commission held its own public hearing on the new fee schedule for the department. The new fee schedule was approved and implemented as of January 1, 2005.

The Commission is in the process of revising the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations for the Town of Easton. The last time they were revised was in 1991.

As the Conservation Commission, it is responsible to maintain town-owned "Open Space" and to plan for future open space acquisitions. To that effect, it works closely with developers and conservation groups and recommends to the Planning and Zoning Commission specific areas to be acquired by the Town or otherwise protected which are in line with the Town's Open Space Plan adopted in March, 1994. This fiscal year, the Town has obtained 4.18 acres of Open Space along the Mill River near South Park Avenue and the Trumbull town line.

Currently, the Town owns nearly 300 acres of Town managed Open Space in various parts of Easton, with the single largest piece of it being the Paine Open Space on Maple Road. The Commission through its members, as well as Boy Scout Troop 66 has maintained the existing trails and added more Trails for the enjoyment of the people who walk the Paine Open Space. The Conservation office maintains a list of Open Space parcels as well as a list of Conservation Easements.

The Commission was instrumental in establishing the Land Preservation and Acquisition Commission, which will evaluate land for acquisition based upon its potential use for open space, recreation or housing.

Two valued members, Cleo Sonneborn and Charlie Muller, resigned this past year. The Commission would like to thank them for their years of service.

The Conservation office is open daily from 8:30 a.m. till 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Williams, Chairman

Officers for the Easton Conservation Commission:

Douglas Williams, Chairman
Stephen J. Edwards, Vice-Chairman
Eleanor Sylvestro, Secretary
Phillip A. Doremus, WEO
Janice J. Greiser, Conservation Secretary

COMMISSION FOR THE AGING

The Commission for the Aging was established pursuant to Section 7-127a of the General statutes and a Town Ordinance to develop and coordinate programs for the aging in the Town. The Commission consists of five (5) electors of the town of Easton, appointed for 3-year terms, at least three (3) of whom shall be representative of the age group concerned, and three (3) alternates in accordance with the by-laws.

The Municipal Agent, Pat Finick, who is appointed by the First Selectman, serves as an ex-officio member of the Commission in accordance with State Statutes.

The Commission shall:

- a. Study the conditions and needs of elderly persons in Easton in relation to housing, economic, employment, health, recreational and other matter.
- b. Analyze the services for the aged provided by the community, both by public and private agencies.
- c. Develop and coordinate programs.
- d. Make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen regarding the development and integration of public and private agencies in co-operation with State and other services to the extent possible.

The Town may make appropriations for the expenses of the Commission and may, with approval of the Board of Selectmen, participate in State, Federal and private programs and grants concerning the elderly.

The Commission is authorized and empowered to accept gifts or contributions for any of its purposes and shall

administer the same for such purposes in accordance with the term of the gift as a separate fund subject to appropriations approved by the Board of Finance.

Commission meeting are held the first Monday of each month with the exception of January, July and August, at 5:00 p.m. in the Senior Center. They are open to the public.

The Commission held a very successful seminar Identity Theft - It Can Happen to You. Stephen J. Sedensky, III, senior assistant state attorney for the Danbury Judicial District was the speaker

Commission members are: Jennifer Alves, Linda Dollard, Chair, Nancy Gavigan, Janet Gordon, Phyllis Neary, Dorothy Pavlick and Barbara Stowell.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Dollard, Chair

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The Parks and Recreation Commission promotes, assists and helps coordinate privately sponsored and managed recreation programs and plans, manages and conducts many recreation activities under its own ownership. Programs sponsored by the commission are self-liquidating as the result of fees charged to participants.

Easton Parks and Recreation has continued its field development program throughout the Town of Easton. In addition, extensive repairs have been done on Veteran's Field, Pond Field and Toth Park as the maintenance department continued the overall improvement of the town's facilities. The construction of five acres of multi-purpose fields at the Morehouse site will help to accommodate the increase in youth sports in Easton. With the help of Planning and Zoning, The Board of Selectman and the Board of Finance, Easton now has a quality inventory for continued success. The Easton Parks and Recreation takes great pride of the overall condition of all public parks and fields.

The Parks and Recreation department saw continued growth in its recreation programs. In addition to the standard programs and camps, we offered many free program opportunities and clinics for Easton youth. Our Extended Day program entered into its third year with continued success. We look forward to continuing offering quality programs to the residents of Easton and the challenges that may lie ahead.

Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission are: John Cunningham, Chairman, Kathi Smith, Tom Cable, Cheryl Everett, Michael Fleischer, Bob Menegay and Kathy Roach.

INSURANCE COMMISSION

TOWN OF EASTON INSURANCE SCHEDULE

7/01/05 TO 7/01/06

Commercial Property Coverage

Blanket Building & Contents	
Agreed Amount and Replacement	\$73,296,514
Contractor's Equipment	695,065
Fine Arts - Exhibition Floater	200,000
Miscellaneous Leased Property	51,963
Deductible	1,000

Commercial General Liability	\$1,000,000
Each occurrence	
Personal Injury/Advertising Injury	\$1,000,000
Each occurrence	

Medical Expense	\$10,000
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Boiler & Machinery	\$100,000,000
Deductible	2,500

Commercial Automobile

Liability	\$1,000,000
Medical Payment	5,000
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist	1,000,000
Comprehensive	ACVw/\$500 deductible
Collision	ACV w/\$1,000 deductible

Public Officials Liability	Each claim \$1,000,000
Deductible	Each claim \$5,000

Law Enforcement Liability	Each claim \$1,000,000
Deductible	Each claim \$5,000

School Leader's Legal Liability	Each claim \$1,000,000
Deductible	Each claim 1,000
<u>Following-Form Excess Liability</u>	\$10,000,000

<u>Pollution Liability</u> (Underground Oil Tanks)	
Per release	\$1,000,000
Deductible	Per release 10,000

Workers' Compensation & Employer Liability

Exp. Mod. 1.16	
Employer's Liability	
Each Accident	\$1,000,000
Disease - Policy Limit	\$1,000,000
Disease - Each Employee	\$1,000,000

Blanket Public Employee Dishonesty Bond	\$500,000
Specified In-Name Bonds	
Tax Collector bond	187,500
Asst. Tax collector Bond	187,500
Retirement Plan Bond	160,000

Position Bonds

Treasurer	100,000
Comptroller	100,000
Human Resources/Compensation Coordinator	100,000
Account Payable/Receptionist	100,000

PENSION AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMISSION

The commission is comprised of seven appointed electors who serve four-year overlapping terms. The First Selectman is an Ex Officio member. Currently serving are First Selectman William J. Kupinse Jr., Chairman Alan P. Goldbecker, Vice-chairman A. Reynolds Gordon, Secretary Dennis Laccovole, John Morris, Sally Summerlin, Marvin Gelfand and Salvatore Tartaglione.

The Commission holds six regular meetings annually, and special meetings as needed. It serves as Trustee and Administrator of the Town's pension plan, and approves benefit payments, reviews actuarial valuations and assumptions, and selects and monitors investments of pension plan assets. The commission also oversees the group health, life, disability and other welfare benefits provided for Town employees, and when called upon, assists and advises the Town regarding the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements.

The assets of the pension plan continue to be invested in domestic and international stocks and fixed income securities. The overall investment performance of the pension fund assets continues at a satisfactory pace. The Town's pension obligations are 9% under-funded as a result of significant increases in benefits as described below and modest underperformance of the portfolio during the last portion of the stock market downturn.

In recent years the state unilaterally and dramatically enhanced pension benefits for state sponsored pension plans. The same benefits were requested by town employees. Resolution was reached by adopting much of the greatly enhanced benefits with increased contributions from the Town and Town employees. Current and future costs of the enhanced benefits should increase at a minimum by 28%. Costs of the Town's group health insurance program have escalated rapidly but in line with general experience.

Financial details regarding employee benefit plans are included in the Auditor's Report section of this annual Report.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan P. Goldbecker, Chairman

COMMITTEES:**CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

The Easton Cemetery Committee was established in 2004 as a permanent committee responsible for those cemeteries in Easton which do not have a Sexton. At the same time the Board of Selectmen appointed the Town Clerk as Sexton of all cemeteries in Easton which did not have a Sexton.

Easton has six cemeteries. These are: Aspetuck; Center Street; Den; Gilbertown; Lyons and Union. Only Union and Aspetuck are still active and have their own Sexton. Center Street is not active; it has family grave sites available but appears to have no other remaining gravesites.

Each of these cemeteries originally had a Care Association that managed the funds used to maintain the cemetery. Only Aspetuck, Center Street and Union cemeteries still have known Care Associations. In the case of Center Street the last remaining member of the Association was Dwight Fanton. The Fanton family has several gravesites in the cemetery and wishes to use the remaining sites in the future. Other families also have gravesites available.

The Board of Selectmen on 11/18/2004 established a Cemetery Committee with Full Members and Adjunct Members. It appointed the people listed below to the initial terms indicated. Each full membership position will be re-appointed to a full six year term when the initial term expires. Later, David Silverglade was appointed as an Alternate member in order to ensure public representation.

They also established separate accounts to receive funds for each of the cemeteries to be expended in each case specifically on the cemetery in question. This was required because Dwight Fanton, the last known remaining member of the Center Street Care Association transferred the Association funds to the town for maintenance of that cemetery only. His son Jonathan Fanton is an Adjunct member because of the family interest in Center Street and in the family gravesites in the cemetery. The other cemeteries have no known funding sources.

Mary Lou Weinstein is an Adjunct member because she has family gravesites in Center Street Cemetery and has helped maintain the cemetery when it was ignored by others. The Board of Selectmen approved that the Park and Recreation Department should be responsible for cutting the grass and maintaining the plants and trees to the extent possible.

The committee obtained information on the cemeteries from the State Archeologist and the Easton Historical Society. This information was updated and reformatted on a voluntary basis by Bessie Yeh a student at Joel Barlow High School with the assistance of Bob Manley a Barlow

teacher. A survey of the Center Street Cemetery was completed by Conservart LLC with recommendations on maintenance required.

The maintenance work will be initiated when the weather improves in the Spring. Volunteers are needed because funding is not available. At the same time a photographic library of the cemetery and the individual gravestones will be completed. "Drew" King has volunteered to complete this task. The original articles of Association have been located. Robert Bloom provided a copy of the Aspetuck Cemetery Rules and Regulations which will serve as a basis for establishing similar Rules and Regulations for Center Street and the other cemeteries.

Full Members Beginning 12/1/2004:

W. Derek Buckley [Chair, 6 years appointment]
Phil Doremus [Vice Chair, 4 years appointment]
Lois Bloom [2 years appointment]

Alternate Member Beginning 10/6/2005,

David Silverglade [2 years appointment, Ending 12/1/2006]

Adjunct Members Beginning 12/1/2004:

Robert Bloom [2 years appointment]
Jonathan Fanton [2 years appointment]
Mary Lou Weinstein [2 years appointment]

Joan Kirk, Secretary

Respectfully submitted,
W. Derek Buckley, Chairman

HUMAN RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Human Resources Advisory Committee is charged with advising the First Selectman and the Town's boards, commissions, and other agencies regarding human resources practices and related matters including classification of Town positions.

For a number of years, the Committee was chaired by Emmett Wallace. Emmett's knowledge in the area of human resources coupled with his desire for fairness, both to the Town and its employees, served the Committee well. Emmett's loss through his untimely death last year is a loss not only for the Committee, but for the community. The members of the Committee will remember Emmett and his years of service fondly.

During the 2005 year, the Committee reviewed and proposed adjustments, as appropriate, of selected job grade classifications and compensation rates.

The membership of the Committee during 2005 was Emmett Wallace, Chair; William J. Kupinse, Jr.; Anthony Colonnese, Philip Petron; Valerie Buckley; and Grace

Stanczyk. The membership of the Committee during 2006 will be William J. Kupinse, Jr., Chair; Anthony Colonnese; Elise Broach; Valerie Buckley; Grace Stanczyk; and Kathleen Loudon.

Respectfully submitted,
William J. Kupinse, Jr., Chair

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

The Easton Recycling Committee members are: Anthony J. Colonnese, Thomas Dollard, Albert A. Mansi, Clinton Salko, Philip Snow, Emmett Wallace, and Ed Nagy, (ex-officio), of the Public Works Department. The purpose of the Committee is to operate a recycling program for Easton within the guidelines of the Southwestern Regional Recycling Operating Committee (SWEROC) and the State Mandate. The Town of Easton voted at a Town Meeting held on September 20, 1989 to join SWEROC, and to start a recycling program in the Town of Easton. SWEROC has contracted with Fairfield County Recycling (FCR) to operate an Intermediate Processing Center (IPC) in Stratford, which accepts recyclable materials. Curbside recycling pickup started January 7, 1991. Recycling tonnage collected by the Town this Fiscal Year was 617.77 tons.

The Towns of Trumbull, Easton and Monroe have put our resources together to form TEaM, which is our combined effort to operate a recycling drop-off center for scrap metal, commingled beverage containers, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard, newspaper, and used tires. It is TEaM's goal to expand this center's capabilities to accept additional recyclable products. Easton's share of recycled materials dropped off was 210.49 tons.

The volume of waste motor oil that was brought to the Public Works facility by Town residents for recycling was 815 gallons. This oil was sent to a recycler.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward Nagy, P.E. - Director of Public Works

SOLID WASTE REPORT

July 5, 1988, began the commercial operation of the Bridgeport Resource Recovery plant. As of that date, Easton no longer deposited solid waste directly at the Connecticut Resource Recovery Authority (CRRA) Landfill located in Shelton, Connecticut. The ash produced by the plant is deposited at a Putnam, Connecticut ash landfill. The Resource Recovery plant is designed to burn 657,000 tons of solid waste from the greater Bridgeport region of which the Town of Easton contributed 3,182 tons of solid waste during the 2004-2005 fiscal year. The disposal fee for this solid waste was \$74.00 per ton.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Police Commissioners was created through a Special Act of the State Legislature, which was approved on June 22, 1937. The number of Police Commissioners was changed from three (3) to five (5) members at a Town Meeting held on October 21, 1992. The five (5) unpaid members are appointed for three (3) year terms. Meetings are held monthly, or for special meetings at the request of the Chairman or a majority of the members. The Commission and members of the Easton Police Department welcome three (3) new Police Commissioners appointed during this fiscal year.

The members are:

- Charles R. Feld, Commission Chairman
- Ronald Kowalski, Vice-Chairman
- John Neary, Secretary
- Kathleen Cunningham
- Marvin Gelfand

The Police Commission and members of the Easton Police Department wish to extend their sincere appreciation to **Commissioner Robert Nicola** for his dedication and commitment to the Board of Police Commissioners and to the Easton Police Department. **Commissioner Nicola** served from February 8, 1993 to June 30, 2004.

The Board is charged with the organization, general management and control of the Police Department. It is also responsible for appointing a Chief of Police and police officers. It has complete control and management of all apparatus, equipment, and buildings owned and used by the Town for police purposes and, subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen, the Police Commission is responsible for the purchases of all equipment for said department.

Respectfully submitted,
Commissioner Charles R. Feld, Chairman

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Police Department is charged with the enforcement of laws and preservation of peace within the Town of Easton.

The Easton Police Department exemplifies what this town represents - tradition, honor, commitment, strength and innovation. We dedicate ourselves to work in partnership with the community to provide public safety and to improve the quality of life in every neighborhood within the Town of Easton.

The Police Explorer Program, organized in 2001, is designed to educate and involve young men and women in police operations. In addition to gaining working knowledge of police work, the participants have the

opportunity to serve their community, by assisting officers at various community events.

The Easton Police D.A.R.E. Program continues to grow in our elementary and middle schools under the direction of Officer Mark Pastor. Approximately 350 students are presently involved in Drug Abuse Resistance Education, (D.A.R.E.). The program started in 1990 when only 65 students were registered. Officer Pastor is recognized as one of the leading D.A.R.E. Officers in the State of Connecticut.

The Easton Police Department has again been awarded several federal and state grants during this fiscal year. These grants included a Highway Safety Grant for DUI enforcement, Highway Safety Equipment grant, a Technology Block Grant, the Bulletproof Vest grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance Program and Homeland Security funding. Through this funding, the department has advanced in technology and has provided our officers with modern and safe equipment to protect this community.

The Department continues as a "First Responder" agency, certified by the State of Connecticut and the Office of Emergency Medical Services, (OEMS). All police patrol vehicles are equipped with Automatic External Defibrillators; all officers are trained and certified to administer early defibrillation in cases of cardiac arrest. This program continues through the cooperative efforts of the Easton Voluntary Emergency Medical Service, (EVEMS) and the Easton Police Department.

Once again, it is very important to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the citizens of this community for their continuing support and cooperation, and also to the men and women of the Easton Police Department who work with pride and professionalism to make the Town of Easton a safe community.

Respectfully submitted,
John F. Solomon, Chief of Police

**EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR END
REPORT**

JULY 1, 2004 – JUNE 30, 2005

<u>ENFORCEMENT:</u>	2005	2004	2003
MV Violations	716	1,078	856
Parking Tickets	13	21	15
MV Warnings	1,001	997	978
<u>CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS:</u>			
ACO Arrest	25	16	16
Arson	0	0	1
Assault	3	11	12
Breach of Peace	5	7	4
Burglary	4	5	3
Criminal Mischief	1	3	8
Criminal Trespassing	11	18	21
Disorderly Conduct	12	10	13
Drugs	25	10	11
JV Referral	8	6	6
DWI	23	29	15
Larceny	3	7	4
Robbery	0	0	0
Sex Crimes/Rape	1	0	0
Stolen MV	0	0	0
Weapons Violation	0	4	3
Warrants	30	16	16
Other	12	9	7
Enforcement/Violations Totals	1,893	2,246	1,989

MUNICIPAL ANIMAL CONTROL

Governed by State Statute, the Municipal Animal Control Department is under the authority of the Chief of Police, who is responsible for the supervision of the Animal Control Officer (ACO) and the daily operations of the department.

The Municipal Animal Control Officer, Kelly Fitch, is empowered by State Statute with the authority to conduct investigations concerning any laws relating to domestic animals, to arrest, issue written complaints and summons any person found in violation of the animal control laws. State Statute further empowers the Animal Control Officer to conduct a search for unlicensed dogs and to seize same (without warrant). Two part-time ACOs currently assist ACO Fitch.

The Town of Easton conducted a survey of unlicensed dogs again this year, in accordance with Section 22-349L of the Connecticut General Statutes. The need for the survey has been occasioned by two factors: an additional 10% rebate to the Town on collected fees and the lack of voluntary registrations. It should be pointed out that delaying licensing results in arrest and a significant fine, in

addition to the license fee requirement. All licenses are renewable between June 1st and July 1st of each year.

Over the past several years, we have experienced a significant increase in animal complaints and investigations. Actions to resolve these problems have resulted in increased enforcement of licensing and roaming laws. The Animal Control Department has also assisted Town residents with the capture and transportation of feral cats for the purpose of spaying and/or neutering, and vaccinations. Cats have been returned to their place of residence after surgery, without the fear of an increased cat population or spread of disease to our residents or their pets.

I wish to thank all of our citizens who have helped with animals, through their generous donations or time spent at the shelter. Your continued support is sincerely appreciated.

**EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
DOG WARDEN REPORT
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2004 – JUNE 30, 2005**

	2005	2004	2003
Complaints Investigated	1,055	963	1,025
Dogs Destroyed	6	6	3
Cats Destroyed	0	1	4
Dogs Redeemed	74	47	76
Cats Redeemed	0	1	1
Dogs Sold	10	13	15
Cats Sold	4	3	20
Dog Owner Arrests	25	15	15
Dog Bites	14	15	10
Cat Bites	2	3	4
Phone Calls Received	2,402	1,997	2,702
Notices to License	414	685	267

Respectfully submitted,
John F. Solomon, Chief of Police

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

The Communications Center is under the direction of the Chief of Police who is responsible for the supervision of personnel and the daily operations of this department. The Communications Center operates seven (7) days a week and twenty-four (24) hours a day. All Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Service calls are received and dispatched from this department.

There are three (3) full-time civilian Dispatchers: Susana B. Santos, James Iannucci, and Christopher Lazar. There are also seven (7) part-time Dispatchers who cover shifts on the weekends, holidays, and for other emergencies. The Dispatchers are mandated by law to complete the State of Connecticut Telecommunicator training along with additional training in the use of the Connecticut On Line Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing System (COLLECT) and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) computer system.

The following services are provided by the Communications Center:

ETP stickers – this sticker, which is placed on the left rear bumper, is an excellent aid to Police Officers when responding to complaints. It makes the Officer aware that a vehicle is owned by an Easton resident. To obtain an ETP sticker, simply bring your vehicle registration to the Communications Center. If you are a new resident and your registration does not yet reflect your Easton address, please bring proof of residency with you.

Vacant House Checks or VHCs – when going away, feel free to stop by the Communications Center or call the main line and the Dispatcher will obtain emergency contact information from you. This will assist us if any problems arise in your absence. It is advisable that you call a few days in advance of your departure.

New Residents – If you are a new resident, moving within the state of Connecticut, you can save a trip to DMV by picking up a Change of Address for License and/or Registration card at the Communications Center. Remember that you **MUST** notify DMV of address changes within forty-eight (48) hours of moving. New Residents from out of state must appear at the DMV.

Alarms – emergency contact information can be updated by calling or stopping by the Communications Center. We recommend that all information be updated annually for current phone numbers and alarm codes. A reminder, that per Town Ordinance, all alarm systems should be registered with the Police Department.

RUOK – The Easton Police Department's Telephone Reassurance Program or RUOK, is a free service available to any resident over the age of 60, or to any resident who is

disabled. You can sign up for the program by calling or stopping by the Communications Center.

Data Alert – This database alerts the Dispatcher to any disability that has been reported to the department for medical emergency response. When a call comes into the Dispatcher and your name or address is entered into the computer, the data alert will enable the dispatcher to immediately recognize medical disabilities that will save critical time in responding to the needs of those individuals. Please notify this department of any emergency medical information that you feel should be recorded in our **Data Alert System**. This information is kept confidential and used only for emergency response.

Respectfully submitted,
John F. Solomon, Chief of Police

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Fire Commissioners was set up by a Town Ordinance in 1965. It is responsible for insuring that fire protection services are provided for residences of the town. The Commission works in close cooperation with the town employed firefighters, the Fire Marshall's office and the Easton Volunteer Fire Company #1, a separate non-town support corporation, which furnishes the volunteer manpower for fire fighting.

The board meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the firehouse training room. Fire marshal Peter Neary and Chief Doug Von Holtz along with some of their officers attend the meetings to keep the commission abreast of the happenings and needs of the Fire Company and the Town. The Town's four paid firefighters maintain 24-hour coverage of the firehouse, whereby there is always one paid firefighter on duty to answer the alarm. Our dedicated paid firefighters are Wayne Crossman, Michael Ohradan, James Wright and Dave Davies.

Currently the Town owns four firefighting vehicles. A concern of the Commission and the Fire Department is that as larger buildings and taller homes are built, we have the proper equipment to fight fires when they occur in these buildings.

The Fire Department continues the dry hydrant installation program. Installations are made of ponds or water storage tanks buried in the ground in areas of the Town not supported with public water. In addition, the Department works with the Planning and Zoning Commission to insure that adequate water supplies are installed in new subdivisions and driveway accesses to new homes are constructed to accommodate the fire trucks.

The Commission and Fire Company is concerned with the decreasing number of volunteers available to respond to

fires. Day time many of the volunteers work out of town and not available to answer fire calls.

Home smoke detectors are the best defense against injury or death due to fire. The National Fire Protection Associates estimates more than half of home fire deaths result from fires in the 65% of homes with no smoke alarms. The Fire Commission, Fire Department and Fire Marshal highly recommend that all dwellings have smoke detectors, and that they are properly maintained and tested yearly. Another recommendation is that each home be equipped with an ABC class portable fire extinguisher and that it be kept in a handy spot.

The Commission would like to thank the officers and members of the Easton Volunteer Fire Company #1 and the Fire Marshals of the Town. Each year these volunteers, as a team, spend over 1,000 hours on call in our Town. This plus the countless hours of drills, training and maintaining equipment, can only be classified as the work of a group of "highly motivated and dedicated people".

Respectfully submitted,
George A. Beno, Chairman
Ralph Altieri
Elbert Burr
Anthony Colonnese
Theresa Connell

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Town of Easton is provided fire protection by two agencies, the Easton Fire Department, and the Easton Volunteer Fire Company #1. These agencies operate while responding to calls and training as one cohesive unit. The Elected Chiefs of the Volunteer Fire Company are the Chiefs of both agencies.

The Easton Volunteer Fire Company #1 was established in November of 1921 and has continuously provided fire protection to the Town of Easton ever since. Currently there are 40 active firefighters serving in the Fire Company. These volunteers come from a wide cross-section of Easton's diverse community. They are Lawyers, General Contractors, Aircraft Mechanics, Architects, etc. These men and woman spend countless hours training for and responding to the wide variety of calls for help. The elected line officers in 2005 were Chief Doug von Holtz, 1st Assistant Chief Jim Girardi, and 2nd Assistant Chief Steve Bittner. The executive officers in 2004 were President Gerry Mulligan, Vice President Steve Waugh, Secretary Lucy Crossman, and Treasurer James Wright.

The Easton Fire Department was created in 1947. At first there was only one career firefighter who would work the daytime hours during the week. During the 1950's two more firefighters were added to the rolls of the Fire Department. In 1968 the fourth and final position was

added to the roster. A firefighter works 24 straight hours and then has 72 hours off. This provides staffing in the Fire House 24 hours a day 365 days a year. Many times during the workweek, due to Easton being a bedroom community, the "on-duty" firefighter is the only one responding to calls. The career firefighters perform the crucial task of maintaining the Town's firefighting equipment. The Town's current career fighters are Wayne Crossman, James Wright, Michael Ohradan, and David Davies.

The 2005 calendar year was busiest year ever. The Department responded to 462 calls during the year. The calls types varied greatly. A breakdown of the most frequent types of calls is as follows: 83 alarm activations, 64 lockouts, 48 vehicle accidents, and 49 alarm malfunctions. We also responded to a variety of hazardous material releases. All told the Department personnel expended 2,121 person hours responding to calls for help.

During the year the Town took delivery of a new Engine 2. The replacement engine is an E-One midi-pumper. The current engine replaced a 1978 body on a 1980 chassis engine. The engine fills many rolls from Cold Water rescue to brush fire suppression.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of Easton for their continued support of both agencies, and the Volunteer and Career Firefighters for their countless hours of dedicated service to the town.

Respectfully submitted
Chief Douglas Von Holtz

EASTON VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

Members of the EMS Commission are Mr. Robert Adriani, Mrs. Gloria Bindelglass, Mr. William Chiarenzelli, Dr. Jonathan Maisel, and Dr. Charles B. Watson. The Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at EMS Headquarters and if a holiday, on Thursday. The Commission's responsibility is to oversee the Town budget for the EMS services, the activities of the full and part time EMS staff, the maintenance and management of the EMS Headquarters and equipment and serve as a liaison between the Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Service and the Town of Easton. Also, the Commission acts in an advisory capacity to any matters presented by the EMS Service of the Town of Easton.

The Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Service consists of 33 volunteers, including college students, who participate when they are available. Officers and Directors are Mrs. Marge Smith, President and Chief of the Department, Police Officer Jonathan Arnold, Vice President and Assistant Chief/Operations, Ms. Victoria Cavanagh, Secretary, Mr. John Smith, Treasurer, Mrs. Carolyn Kearney, Director of Training, Ms. Midge

Olschan and Ms. Patty Kusovitsky co-Directors of Personnel, Mr. Dave Kmetz, Director of Vehicle and Building Maintenance, Mr. Victor Malendretos, Director of Communications, Ms. Ann Slimak, Director of Scheduling, and Mrs. Sandra Snyder, Director of Public Relations. Chief Smith and Assistant Chief Arnold receive a stipend from the town for their work leading the service. Chief Smith attends monthly meetings of the Southwest Emergency Medical Council on behalf of the Town of Easton to stay abreast of regional and statewide EMS issues and recommendations. She then reports this to the Easton EMS Commission at their monthly meetings. Also, throughout the year, Mrs. Smith attends other meetings in Easton and surrounding towns as they relate to the emergency medical service. Many homeland security meetings continue to be conducted on local, regional and state levels which were attended by Chief Smith and Assistant Chief Arnold, as well as Tri-Town Meetings with Easton, Monroe and Trumbull. Dr. Jonathan Maisel represents the Town of Easton on the Board of Directors of the Emergency Medical Communications Center (C-Med), thereby insuring the town's concerns are presented at these meetings. C-Med facilitates communications between our ambulance and area hospitals and between area ambulances as needed.

The Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Service, Inc. came into being in May 1946 as the Easton Ambulance Association. It has evolved from a first-aid pick-up and transport service to one provided by trained state certified emergency medical technicians, all holding EMT-Defibrillation certification and advanced life support skills. The service is supplemented by paramedic intercepts whenever called for by protocol established by the State of Connecticut Office of Emergency Medical Service.

There were 351 total calls and standbys for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. A breakdown of call types indicates 56 medical serious/critical; 149 medical non-critical; 14 trauma serious/critical; 98 trauma non-critical; 9 evaluation/assistance (no transports), 5 cancellations en-route plus 1 medical mutual aid call to Trumbull. In addition to this, there were 19 standbys. The EVEMS stands-by for aid during major town events. In 2004-05, there were 4 fire standbys, 1 mast casualty standby at the request of C-Med for Trumbull, 2 Easton Police incidents, 5 nights for Firemen's Carnival, 3 bicycle tours, 1 DARE Road Race, 1 JBHS football game, 1 MADD presentation at JBHS and Touch-a-Truck.

There are two full-time paid EMTs who cover Monday through Friday because of the inability of volunteer EMS services to obtain volunteers during daytime working hours. Most of Easton's volunteer EMTs have daytime jobs out of town. At any time during daytime weekday hours, Easton residents may stop by to have a blood pressure reading at no cost. EVEMS EMT-Ds cover vacation, illness, etc., with per diem personnel, as necessary. The volunteers cover after work-hours from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm, night and 24-hour/day weekend calls.

In the event of multiple calls or occasional non-availability of volunteers, an agreement is in place for backup by Nelson paramedic ambulance, as well as, area towns for mutual aid

The Easton Police Department officers continue to be "First Responders" to all emergency medical calls. They are fully trained and equipped with Automatic External Defibrillators and other primary resuscitative equipment. Our First Responders and Easton EMS meet recommended Office of Emergency Medical Service response time requirements established by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health.

At the request and with the approval of the Boards of Selectmen and Finance, the EVEMS began the process of obtaining authorization from the State of Connecticut to begin billing for ambulance calls, which is anticipated to begin in the next fiscal period. In fact third party billing actually commenced January 1, 2004. Insurance billings will help offset Easton's cost for EMS services.

Without requesting town funds, EVEMS continues to work toward the goal of acquiring a new EMS Headquarters wherein we will better meet the needs of a growing and demanding town, enhance EMT professionalism, provide better incentive and establish a more suitable environment to retain and recruit volunteers. A new EMT facility will allow us to stay overnight at headquarters, and, thus, speed EMS response to after hours and holiday emergencies. It will also put us in a position to offer meaningful medical related programs to the Easton community. We continue our fund raising efforts toward this goal and wish to thank all who so kindly support us. The acquisition of a suitable building is a top priority for EVEMS. Without question, success with these efforts will be of significant benefit to the EVEMS and the Town of Easton.

Respiratory evaluations and fit testing for high efficiency filter masks continue on an annual basis so that Easton EMS is prepared to respond to a bio-hazard incident and EMTs will be protected while taking care of and transporting patients. Cross training on extrication of accident victims continues each year with the Fire Department.

An Open House honored Assistant Operations Chief Jonathan Arnold who was awarded the "George A. Ganung Volunteer of the Year Award at the State Capitol on May 18, 2005. The award is dedicated to the memory of George A. Ganung, an exceptional volunteer firefighter/EMT who was killed at the age of 62 while serving his community. Each year, it recognizes a Connecticut emergency medical services volunteer for dedication to the service of others in his or her community.

The Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Services honored Cheryl Andrews with the "Easton EMT of the Year Award for 2005." This award was established to honor Herb Goldman who served Easton for 7 years before

his death untimely on January 22, 2002. Cheryl is a 12 year member of EMS and has served in many capacities, all of which helped to keep Easton EMS' operation running smoothly.

EVEMS has participated in various community educational projects as well as providing on site support when necessary. For example, EVEMS shares the requirement for ambulance standby at Joel Barlow High School Football games with Redding. EVEMS participates in the annual Joel Barlow High School MADD presentation and supports a high school EMT Class. Our EMS facility is open to visitation by community organizations such as the Cub Scouts, Brownies, and other groups like the Boy/Girl Scouts. Visits are scheduled by calling EMS headquarters. Joel Barlow High School or the Scouts are allowed to use our facility for car washes to raise funds. The Easton Garden Club reserves the garages each year for their plant sale in the event of rain. EVEMS supports the DARE Program in Easton's schools, as well as, the Easton Police Explorer Post. EVEMS also supports the Fire Department on standby for fires and specific training events where it is prudent to have medical rescue personnel nearby.

The EVEMS, with help from physician members of the EMS Commission and the nurses in our service, assisted emergency services in town with hepatitis vaccination, annual TB skin testing, respiratory screening and other OSHA mandated worker safety compliance programs in 2005.

We encourage Easton residents to call our headquarters to inquire about EMT and CPR courses and/or visit our website at Easton EMS.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles B. Watson, MD Chairman, EMS Commission
Marge Smith, EMT-D President, EVEMS

PUBLIC LIBRARY:

EASTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Easton Public Library is a community asset intellectually, culturally, socially and economically. Easton's citizens use the Library for academics, research, entertainment, social interaction, arts and community events.

As the Town's gathering place, the Library continued to provide high quality programs for Easton's citizens. The Library conducted 200 programs for children and young adults with attendance of 2,059 youngsters. The Library sponsored 14 programs for adults including book discussions, lectures and seminars. The calendar also included 4 intergenerational programs with a combined audience of 159 individuals.

With the passage of the FY 2004-2005 budget, a new position, Children's/Young Adult Librarian was added to the Library's Table of Organization. In August 2004, Ms. Sharon Daniel joined the Library as a full time staff member. A former employee of the Norwalk public school system and the Norwalk Public Library, Ms. Daniel brings years of experience to Easton. She is quite familiar with children's and young adult literature and is a creative programmer.

During this fiscal year, the Library Director, Ms. Bernadette Baldino, was invited to join the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Library Consortium. This statewide library service agency works with public, academic and special libraries to coordinate varied functions, such as, purchasing, programming, and continuing education, so that all involved can stretch their dollars. Moreover, working together, the participating libraries are better able to serve their patrons. Currently, Ms. Baldino is serving as the Board secretary.

In keeping with one of the goals identified in the Library's Five Year Plan, "To develop cooperative programming that will attract people to the Library as a gathering place" the Library joined with Easton's United Congregational Church to provide an adult book discussion series. Rev. Nayiri Karjian is facilitator and the Library Director is host of the "Beyond Reading Book Discussion Group". Thus far, the group has discussed a variety of material, from the popular *Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown, to the more esoteric, *War Is a Force That Gives Us Meaning* by Chris Hedges. Participants bring different perspectives, opinions and life experience to each meeting and leave with food for thought and a renewed appreciation of the printed word. The Library enjoys a fulfilling working arrangement with the local public schools. This relationship was clearly demonstrated when Samuel Staples Elementary School's Media Center was closed for the majority of the school year due to mold contamination. The Media Specialist borrowed books and other materials from the Easton Public Library to provide curriculum resources and reading enrichment for students. Working together for the good of the students was an example of true collaboration. In April 2005, the Easton Exchange Club chose to honor the Friends of the Easton Public Library at their 3rd Annual Community Awards Banquet. In preparation for this event, the Library worked closely with the Exchange Club, furthering its goal of intra-community cooperation.

The Friends of the Library support all aspects of Library Service. The programs and fundraisers the Friends conduct add to the Library's resources and generate good will. In FY 2004-2005, the Friends added another creative, fun-filled event, with an adult theme, to their roster - "The Holiday House Tour". Participants toured six Easton homes, which were beautifully decorated in seasonal style. The organization received much positive feedback from this outing; it will join the "Story Book Parade" and "Family Fun Night" as an annual affair. These

events place the Library in the spotlight, reminding residents of its value. Moreover, the Library and its patrons benefit from the Friends' monetary donations to enhance collections, provide special equipment, improve technology, and present quality programming. These needed "extras", made possible by the Friends, would be sorely missed by staff and borrowers alike.

FY 2004-2005 was another busy and challenging year in the life of the Library. It provided innovative programs, print and on-line reference materials, educational items to complement curriculum, recreational reading, DVDs, and CDs to Easton's residents in a fiscally responsible fashion. The Library plays a central role in the community as it delivers quality service across generations. The Library is committed to doing its very best to meet the needs of its users for years to come.

Remember—Find It At Your Library!
www.eastonlibrary.org

FY 2004-2005 Statistics

Circulation - 150,512

Registered Borrowers - 4,166

Total Materials - 69,982

Respectfully submitted,
Bernadette Baldino, Library Director

EDUCATION:

EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Easton's school enrollment continues to grow. As of October 1, 2004, Samuel Staples (K-4) student enrollment was 639 and Helen Keller Middle School (5-8) was 498.

The Town of Easton is served by Samuel Staples Elementary School, Helen Keller Middle School, and Joel Barlow High School. The Easton Board of Education is responsible for the elementary and middle schools, while the high school is under the purview of the Region #9 Board of Education. The three autonomous boards of education of Easton, Redding, and Region #9 (ER9) share a superintendent, a director of curriculum and instruction, and a director of finance and operations. In April 2004, Dr. Allen Fossbender became the superintendent of the three school districts; he was previously the principal of Joel Barlow High School and the assistant superintendent of Region 9. E. Marie Mas became the director of curriculum and instruction in July 2004, and Margaret Sullivan assumed the responsibilities of director of finance and operations in August 2005.

The Easton Board of Education provides considerable funding for curriculum development, particularly summer curriculum work in the areas of integrated language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, guidance, health,

world languages, learning resources and information technology, fine arts and physical education. The director of curriculum works continuously with language arts, mathematics, and science teachers on the development of assessment criteria to measure student achievement in relation to the academic standards of the Connecticut State Department of Education. In addition, the Easton Technology Committee continues to construct plans and to implement strategies to ensure that all students develop competencies in the use of technology. During the 2004-2005 school year, the K-8 Mathematics Curriculum Committee researched and selected the Growing with Mathematics Program for grades K-5, which is being implemented during the 2005-2006 school year.

Professional development for teachers continues to focus on the alignment and implementation of various curriculum frameworks, the integration of technology into curriculum and instruction, and differentiating instruction for all students. Instructional and assessment practices that assist teachers in working with students who have special educational needs are also being modified. The school district's standards-based curriculum requires each student to perform academically at a proficient level; the use of differentiated instruction facilitates student learning.

The Easton School District continues its valuable partnership with the Tri-State Consortium of Schools from Fairfield County, Westchester County, and Long Island. Many of the Easton administrators and teachers have received training in the Tri-State School Evaluation System and have participated in the evaluation of Tri-State Schools. The school district uses Tri-State criteria to formulate school-based goals. For more information on the Easton Schools, please visit the Central Office Web site at www.er9.org, Samuel Staples Elementary School site at www.er9.org/sses, and the Helen Keller Middle School site at www.er9.org/hkms.

The district continued to participate in the Open Choice Program to meet our mandate to reduce racial isolation. Four children from the Bridgeport district continued to be enrolled at Helen Keller Middle School and four children were enrolled at Samuel Staples Elementary School for the 2004-2005 school year.

The 2004-2005 Easton Board of Education members were Dr. Andrea Rowland (Chairperson), Nancy McEwen, Glenn Maiorano, John Allan (Secretary), Dr. Alan Katz and Dr. Daniel Underberger.

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #9

Joel Barlow High School is under the purview of the Connecticut Regional Board of Education No. 9; it is located at 100 Black Rock Turnpike (Route 58) in Redding. As of October 1, 2004, the school had a population of 985 students in grades nine through twelve.

Of the 96 high school faculty members, 4 have doctorates, 53 have Sixth-Year Certificates, 30 have Master's Degrees, and 9 have Bachelor's Degrees. The school's picturesque campus of 113 acres accommodates 26 varsity and 11 junior varsity sport teams. The school's unique Student Activity Program sponsors 57 extracurricular and co-curricular activities during and after school hours.

Joel Barlow High School has received many state and national awards for exemplary curriculum and instruction and for overall excellence in education. It has been identified twice by the United States Department of Education as a School of Excellence. Its Advanced Placement Program has been commended by the Connecticut State Department of Education and the *Washington Post*. The College Board uses the school's rubric for its Junior Writing Portfolio as a national model. The Connecticut School Counselor Association selected the Easton-Redding-Joel Barlow High School Guidance Curriculum to receive its Outstanding Guidance and Counseling Program Award. In addition, the school received in 2004-2005 three awards from the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education for its program of studies, parent-guardian student handbook, and literary magazine. In recognition of its overall academic excellence, Joel Barlow High School was one of a few select schools whose curricula and data-based improvement processes were recognized by the State Board of Education in 2003.

The high school ranked among the top four schools in the state for student performance in all four subtests of the mandated 2005 Connecticut Academic Performance Test. Student performance on the SAT, SAT II, and Advanced Placement Examinations have been consistently noteworthy. In 2004-2005, 99 percent of seniors took the SAT I. Students achieved a mean score of 638 out of a possible score of 800 in Writing, 622 in Math IC, and 726 in Math IIC on the SAT II Examinations. Ten students were commended for exceptional performance on the PSAT by the National Merit Scholarship Program. In 2005, 138 students took a total of 213 Advanced Placement Examinations in 16 different advanced placement subjects. Eighty percent of the grades were 3 or higher. Ninety-six percent of the Class of 2005 planned to attend post-secondary institutions. Although the vast majority of Joel Barlow graduates proceed to college, the school's range of courses is designed to meet the needs of all students, including those students who pursue post-secondary vocational training.

A large-scale, complex building project, which began in the summer of 2001, has been completed. It has yielded many improvements to the facilities and site. The project has resulted in the construction of a large addition of 26 classrooms and science classrooms/laboratories and the renovation of existing classrooms, auditorium, cafeteria, administrative and guidance offices, Commons Area, and parking lots. New laboratories have been built for world languages, mathematics/science, humanities, business

education, graphics, Cisco Networking, and multi-media/multi-material fabrication. Site improvements include the construction of a new competition field, new multipurpose fields, a new cross-country course, and eight new tennis courts.

DEBT SERVICE AND BENEFITS ACCOUNT SELECTMEN'S BUDGET FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Fiscal Year: July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005

IN KIND SERVICES:

<u>PENSION</u>	
TOWN'S CONTRIBUTION FOR EMPLOYEES	\$120,000

<u>ACTUARY FEES</u>	
1/2 ANNUAL FEE	\$4,000
CHECK WRITING/REFUNDS/MISC.	\$2,719

<u>UNEMPLOYMENT</u>	\$0
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<u>EASTON FIRE DISTRICT</u>	
Tax	\$2,867

<u>INSURANCE</u>	
GENERAL LIABILITY	\$31,038
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	\$35,664

<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>	
PRINCIPAL	\$985,500
INTEREST	\$487,096
NEW DEBT INTEREST	\$230,469

<u>PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT SERVICES</u>	
MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS-LABOR COST	
Helen Keller & Samuel Staples Schools	\$6,500

<u>PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SERVICES</u>	
PLOWING	\$960
SAND & SALT	\$3,780
SWEEPING	\$810

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,911,403
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PROBATE COURT DISTRICT OF TRUMBULL

The Trumbull Probate Court was established by State Statute and commenced operations on January 2, 1959. The Towns of Easton, Monroe and Trumbull are served through this Court. Prior to 1959, the public was served by the Bridgeport Probate Court.

The primary jurisdiction of the Court is to effect the probating of wills and settling of estates and trusts, the appointment of guardians for minors and the mentally retarded, commitments of the mentally ill, conservators for incompetent persons, adoptions and changes of names.

During the period of July 1, 2004, to June 30, 2005, The Trumbull Probate Court processed the following:

<i>Decedent Estates:</i>	
Estates with Wills	233
Estates without Wills	32
Estate Sales of Real Estate	30
Compromise of Claims	5
Allowance of Final Accounts	186
Small Estate Affidavits	80
Estates for Tax Purposes Only	75
State Aid 4a-16 Estates	47
Other Applications or Petitions	16
<i>Adoptions:</i>	10
<i>Guardianships:</i>	
Appointment of Guardians of Estate	14
Compromise of Claims	5
Allowance of Accounts	7
Guardianship of the Mentally Retarded	11
<i>Conservators:</i>	
Involuntary Conservator of Estate/Person	20
Voluntary Conservator of Estate/Person	7
Sale of Real Estate	4
Allowance of Account	22
<i>Miscellaneous:</i>	
Trust Accounts Requiring Hearings	16
Name Changes	35

The Honorable John P. Chiota is Judge of Probate for the Trumbull Probate District. The Clerk is Margaret A. Tranzillo, Assistant Clerks are Elizabeth S. Frassinelli and Gail J. Hanna.

The Court is located in the Trumbull Town Hall and is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
The Honorable John P. Chiota, Judge of Probate

EASTON HEALTH AND RESPITE CONNECTION

(Formerly known as PHNA)

The Easton Health and Respite Connection, a volunteer, non-profit, community oriented organization, hopes to improve the quality of care and the quality of life of the residents in the Easton community. We have contracted with the Visiting Nurse Services of Connecticut to provide respite care relief services.

There are an increased number of loved ones being cared for at home, which can be a commitment filled with emotional stress and hard work. The demands on the caregiver's time and energy are enormous. Insurance does not cover respite care.

Families will contract directly with Visiting Nurse Services, who in turn will provide a free assessment in the home to determine the appropriate level of care required; skilled nursing, sleep-in or home health aide. Easton Health and Respite Connection will reimburse VNS directly for the care that is ultimately provided.

The Easton Health and Respite Connection will continue to provide a Loan Closet in the Senior Center with wheelchairs, commodes, crutches, walkers and other medical supplies for the Easton residents to borrow free of charge.

SUMMARIES OF TOWN MEETINGS

MINUTES SPECIAL TOWN MEETING HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL July 15, 2004, 8:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to discuss and act upon the following:

"Recommendation by the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen to appropriate the sum of \$110,000 to the School Building Committee 2003 to complete the ceiling treatment at Samuel Staples Elementary School".

Present at the meeting were:
William J. Kupinse, Jr., First Selectman
Emmett Wallace, Selectman
W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk
Beverly Dacey, SBC 2003
Ed Czernik, SBC2003
Allen Fossbender, Superintendent of Schools
Andrea Rowland, Chairman Easton Board of Education
Approximately 40 members of the public
The press

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

Tony Colonnese nominated Roger Wollen as Moderator. Andy Kachele seconded the nomination. The nomination was approved by voice vote.

The Town Clerk read the Meeting Notice a copy of which is attached.

The question was moved and seconded and the Moderator opened the meeting for public discussion.

Ed Czernik addressed the meeting to explain the funding request. He explained that the contract with the preferred bidder on the roof could not be executed because prevailing wages were not included and this ultimately resulted in the need for additional funding.

Hugh Kroll asked for an explanation of "prevailing wages". The First Selectman explained that State law required the "prevailing wages", as defined by the state must be used in contracts above specified amounts. The preferred contractor had not used prevailing wages. Using prevailing wages added significantly to the price.

SBC2003 was left with a preferred bidder who had not used prevailing wages and the next bidder who went bankrupt. This forced the selection of the third bidder who was significantly more expensive.

Robert Dunn asked what would happen if the ceiling tiles were not installed. Ed Czernik said there would be no place to hang the lights and possible acoustic and dust problems.

Bud Jennings commented that last month the Board of Finance identified \$50,000 remaining in SBC2003, \$20,000 available from the Board of Education, and \$11,000 remaining from the Helen Keller Middle School project. Why could that money not be used to partly fund the ceiling tile replacement?

Bev Dacey explained that SBC2003 was short \$65,000 before the bid and they are still short even with the lowest bid. They have included a contingency so that they do not have to come back for more.

Bud Jennings asked why the Board of Education could not use the \$140,000 budgeted for maintenance and come back to the town later if they run out of maintenance funds.

Andrea Rowland said that the Board of Education had committed to maintain the school. They could not meet that commitment if they used operating funds to fund capital projects.

Ed Czernik noted that the state normally pays 20% to 25% of school projects. They had not done so in this case but would be approached.

Allen Fossbender noted that new legislation provided for \$100,000 grants to schools to solve indoor air quality problems. The grants were targeted at remediation and he

did not know if they could be used for prospective problems. They will find out.

He also noted that if the request was not funded, there would be no tiles and open ceilings and real or imaginary acoustic and dust and health problems that would distract from education.

The question was called and seconded and passed on a voice vote.

A motion to adjourn was proposed, seconded and accepted by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

MINUTES

Special Town Meeting

Samuel Staples School

February 15, 2005, 8:00 p.m.

Present: WJ Kupinse, Jr. First Selectman
Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
Emmett Wallace Selectman
W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk
Approximately 12 members of the public

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 8:02 p.m. Val Buckley nominated and Bud Jennings seconded the nomination of W. J. Kupinse, Jr. as moderator. The nomination was approved by voice vote.

The Town Clerk read the Notice a copy of which is attached.

1. Acceptance of various Conservation Easements

W. J. Kupinse, Jr. read the description of the easements. Ted Meyer asked if they all related to new construction. The First Selectman said no, but some of them were obtained by the Conservation Commission in building areas. A copy of the easement list is attached. A motion to accept was moved, seconded and approved unanimously by voice vote.

2. Acceptance of Open Space

The First Selectman described the property and showed a map of it. It runs continuously from South Park Avenue to the Trumbull line. It was noted that in most places the property was only wide enough for a trail. There are no current plans to develop the property. It was obtained by grant from a developer. The Town has easements on the North and East side of the Mill River. Ted Meyer noted that, in combination with the property that the town was considering acquiring by eminent domain on South Park Avenue, the property would make an excellent recreation area by the Mill River.

After some discussion, Dori Wollen moved to call the question and Bud Jennings seconded. This passed by

voice vote and a motion to accept was moved and seconded. The motion to accept passed by voice vote.

3. Approval of a special appropriation, as recommended by the Board of Finance, in the amount of \$45,000.00 to the Town Attorney account. A motion to approve was moved and seconded with minimal discussion and approved by voice vote.

A motion to adjourn was moved and seconded and passed by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

MINUTES

**Annual Town Meeting
Samuel Staples School
April 25, 2005, 8:00 p.m.**

Present: WJ Kupinse, Jr. First Selectman
Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
Emmett Wallace Selectman
W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk
Tom Partridge, Chairman Board of Finance
Approximately 200 members of the public

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m. Val Buckley nominated and Walter Eastwood seconded the nomination of Roger Wollen as moderator. The nomination was approved by voice vote.

The Town Clerk read the Notice a copy of which is attached.

The Moderator proposed that in the absence of any objection he would move item number 7 on the agenda, Discussion and Approval of the 2005 Tax Relief for the Elderly Ordinance, to first on the agenda. Hearing no objection he proceeded to item #7 as first on the agenda.

Agenda item #7. A motion to accept the proposed 2005 Tax Relief for the Elderly Ordinance was proposed and seconded and passed by voice vote without discussion.

Agenda Item #1. A motion to accept the 2004 Annual Town Report was proposed and seconded and passed by voice vote without discussion.

Agenda Item #2. Tom Partridge summarized the proposed Town Budget for the fiscal year 2005-2006. Grant Monsarrat asked if the Region 9 budget surplus for this year would be returned to the town. Ms. Cathy Gombos replied that the surplus of \$120,000 was returned to the towns by reducing this fiscal years budget. Bud Jennings asked the same question and got the same answer.

Several people asked Dr. Allen Fossbender, Superintendent of Schools about the cost of the No Child Left Behind Statute. He replied that it was a Federal statute passed about two years ago. It doubled the number of students who have to take Federal tests and costs Connecticut \$2,000,000 per annum. The State and Federal

governments want different tests. For example the tests must be administered in the language that the student speaks at home. This is an open-ended commitment. He summarized the National Legislation as highly intrusive, expensive and non-productive. In response to a question about the cost to the town he noted that the Federal contribution is unknown so they cannot be sure of the net cost.

The moderator moved on to agenda item #4.

Agenda Item #4. A motion to set July 1, 2005 and January 2, 2006 for the 2004 grand list bills was proposed and seconded and passed by voice vote without discussion.

Agenda Item #3. A motion to accept the Five-year capital project plan was proposed, seconded and passed by voice vote without discussion.

Agenda Item #5. Several questions were asked about the proposed use of \$214,000 from the fee in lieu of fund to construct two fields on the site of the new school on Morehouse Road. The questions revolved around who would use the fields and what would happen to any revenue generated. John Cunningham, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission replied that there are strict rules about out of town users of the fields. Revenue generation is rare. Dori Wollen noted that the fee in lieu of fund was set up to acquire open space and not the construct sports fields. Russ Leggett noted that the fund did not distinguish between active and passive land acquisition. A motion to approve the special appropriation was proposed, seconded and passed by voice vote.

Agenda Item #7. Alice Meyer noted that discussion of the Abolition of the Death Penalty is a state issue and not a town issue and it was not a proper place or time to consider it. A motion to approve was proposed and seconded. A motion to table this motion was proposed and seconded and approved by a voice vote without discussion.

Agenda Item #8. A motion to adjourn to a machine vote on Tuesday, May 3, 2005, 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Samuel Staples Elementary School to vote on the annual budget for 2005/2006 of \$33,408,398 was proposed, seconded and passed by voice vote without discussion.

A motion to adjourn was moved and seconded and passed by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

MINUTES

**Annual Town Meeting
Samuel Staples School
May 23, 2005, 8:00 p.m.**

Present: WJ Kupinse, Jr. First Selectman
Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
Emmett Wallace Selectman
W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk
Tom Partridge, Chairman Board of Finance

voice vote and a motion to accept was moved and seconded. The motion to accept passed by voice vote.

3. Approval of a special appropriation, as recommended by the Board of Finance, in the amount of \$45,000.00 to the Town Attorney account. A motion to approve was moved and seconded with minimal discussion and approved by voice vote.

A motion to adjourn was moved and seconded and passed by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

MINUTES

Annual Town Meeting

Samuel Staples School

April 25, 2005, 8:00 p.m.

Present: WJ Kupinse, Jr. First Selectman
Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
Emmett Wallace Selectman
W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk
Tom Partridge, Chairman Board of Finance
Approximately 200 members of the public

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m. Val Buckley nominated and Walter Eastwood seconded the nomination of Roger Wollen as moderator. The nomination was approved by voice vote

The Town Clerk read the Notice a copy of which is attached.

The Moderator proposed that in the absence of any objection he would move item number 7 on the agenda, Discussion and Approval of the 2005 Tax Relief for the Elderly Ordinance, to first on the agenda. Hearing no objection he proceeded to item #7 as first on the agenda.

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Agenda Item #2. Tom Partridge summarized the proposed Town Budget for the fiscal year 2005-2006. Grant Monsarrat asked if the Region 9 budget surplus for this year would be returned to the town. Ms. Cathy Gombos replied that the surplus of \$120,000 was returned to the towns by reducing this fiscal years budget. Bud Jennings asked the same question and got the same answer.

Several people asked Dr Allen Fossbender, Superintendent of Schools about the cost of the No Child Left Behind Statute. He replied that it was a Federal statute passed about two years ago. It doubled the number of students who have to take Federal tests and costs Connecticut \$2,000,000 per annum. The State and Federal

governments want different tests. For example the tests must be administered in the language that the student speaks at home. This is an open-ended commitment. He summarized the National Legislation as highly intrusive, expensive and non-productive. In response to a question about the cost to the town he noted that the Federal contribution is unknown so they cannot be sure of the net cost.

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Agenda Item #3. A motion to accept the Five-year capital project plan was proposed, seconded and passed by voice vote without discussion.

Agenda Item #5. Several questions were asked about the proposed use of \$214,000 from the fee in lieu of fund to construct two fields on the site of the new school on Morehouse Road. The questions revolved around who would use the fields and what would happen to any revenue generated. John Cunningham, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission replied that there are strict rules about out of town users of the fields. Revenue generation is rare. Dori Wollen noted that the fee in lieu of fund was set up to acquire open space and not the construct sports fields. Russ Leggett noted that the fund did not distinguish between active and passive land acquisition. A motion to approve the special appropriation was proposed, seconded and passed by voice vote.

Agenda Item #7. Alice Meyer noted that discussion of the Abolition of the Death Penalty is a state issue and not a town issue and it was not a proper place or time to consider it. A motion to approve was proposed and seconded. A motion to table this motion was proposed and seconded and approved by a voice vote without discussion.

Agenda Item #8. A motion to adjourn to a machine vote on Tuesday, May 3, 2005, 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Samuel Staples Elementary School to vote on the annual budget for 2005/2006 of \$33,408,398 was proposed, seconded and passed by voice vote without discussion.

A motion to adjourn was moved and seconded and passed by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

MINUTES

**Annual Town Meeting
Samuel Staples School
May 23, 2005, 8:00 p.m.**

Present: WJ Kupinse, Jr. First Selectman
Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
Emmett Wallace Selectman
W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk
Tom Partridge, Chairman Board of Finance
Approximately 70 members of the public

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 8:03pm. Robert H. Lessler was nominated as moderator, seconded and approved by voice vote.

The Town Clerk read the Notice a copy of which is attached.

Tom Partridge, Chairman Board of Finance gave a detailed overview of the major features of the proposed Town Budget including Easton's share of the Region 9 budget. He explained the process of arriving at the proposed budget starting with departmental submissions through cut sessions and the first budget vote. He noted that the town was taking over the maintenance of all town buildings including the schools and that the cost was included in the budget for the first time. He called on A. Kachele to explain in detail.

A. Kachele explained the process by which the town decided and implemented the assumption of maintenance. The Public Works Department will assume the responsibility and hire two new employees to cover the work. He explained that one of the new employees would be responsible for covering of the Town Hall maintenance when the maintenance employee is on vacation.

A member of the audience asked why the town was assuming the maintenance expense instead of selling the building. A. Kachele explained that the Selectmen had voted unanimously to retain the building. Some considerations were the logistical problems related to selling the building such as loss of playing fields, Town Hall septic system, Senior Center etc. These factors make it unattractive to sell the building. The member responded that the town could not keep on approving these large budget increases and there is a need to think outside the box to bring costs under control.

A Kachele responded that the town had spent about \$15,000,000 on SSES over the last ten years and much of it had been wasted because of poor maintenance. It is essential that the town get maintenance and maintenance costs under control. A member of the audience noted similar spending at Region 9.

Gowan Dacey questioned the purchase of a \$75,000 grass cutter and snowplow as part of the new school. He noted that he did not vote for it as part of the new school and

thought the state would not reimburse for it. A. Kachele responded that with the new school, new school playing fields, and the two new Park & Recreation playing fields on site the equipment was necessary to maintain the sites. He noted that the equipment was needed primarily on the school site whether it was reimbursed or not. Bucky Stone noted that everything was not reimbursable but some things were undertaken anyway. Clarence Jennings asked if the \$75,000 would be included in the bond and what was the total cost if financed in this way. In partial response A. Kachele stated that the bond had an interest rate of 3.8% and that some surplus might be returned to the town from the project that could be used to pay down some costs.

Bob Lessler asked Andrea Rowland, Chair of the Easton Board of Education to explain the local education budget. Andrea went through it in detail and explained that if it fails it will jeopardize local education students. She explained some of the tradeoffs necessary to minimize the budget increase and reduce the request from the first failed budget.

Catherine Gombos explained the Region 9 Budget and explained the impact of the additional debt service. Judy Shapiro noted that after the budget defeat the board heard the recommendation of the Financial Oversight Committee that the maximum increase should be 5.75% including debt service. As a result the Board had worked to achieve this target. Judy noted that JBHS had an outstanding record with students now confident enough to apply to and be accepted by the top Universities.

W. J Kupinse Jr., First Selectman explained that there would be two questions one for the Town Budget and the other for Region 9. The questions would be in a single line with a space in between. It was not possible to put the questions one above the other because of limitations in the voting machines.

He noted that Voters should vote on both questions. Even though the Region 9 appropriation was included in the Town Budget it had to be voted on separately by voting on the second question.

He then moved to adjourn the Town Meeting to a machine vote to be held on Tuesday May 31, 2005 from 6:00am to 8:00pm at Samuel Staples Elementary School to vote on the annual Town Budget of \$33,021,405, which includes Easton's share of the proposed Region 9 annual budget. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

MINUTES

**Special Town Meeting
Helen Keller Middle School
June 13, 2005, 8:00 p.m.**

Present: WJ Kupinse, Jr. First Selectman
Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
Emmett Wallace Selectman
W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk
Tom Partridge, Chairman Board of Finance
Approximately 50 members of the public

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. WJ Kupinse, Jr. was nominated as moderator, seconded and approved by voice vote.

The Town Clerk read the Warning a copy of which is attached.

Tom Partridge, Chairman Board of Finance gave a detailed overview of the major features of the proposed Town Budget and the changes that had been made since the original submission. He noted that the budget was approved by a majority of the Board of Finance. A. Kachele voted No and Phil Petron abstained.

In response to a question A. Kachele explained that he voted No because he thought that in view of the votes on the prior proposed budgets that the cuts were not sufficient and the budget would fail. If it did then it would complicate the billing process for taxes and would probably require supplementary bills when the mil rate was finally set. Phil Petron explained that he abstained because he thought that if the prior proposed budget were to be cut it should be done by an across the board percentage cut.

There were several questions and comments from the audience including:

Did the cut in the maintenance budget mean that Easton was following in the steps of the Board of Education and we would later be faced with a large renovation bill? Tom Partridge answered that the cuts would not affect the maintenance program.

Why were the education test scores so low despite the large increases in budget over the last few years? Dr. Allen Fossbender noted that they were aware of the scores and were revising programs to address the problem.

In view of the score "crisis" did the Board of Education plan to meet over the summer to address the problem? Andrea Rowland said that the school administrators were addressing the problem and there was no need for the Board of Education to meet over the summer time.

A member of the audience commented that she had voted No the last time because she thought the budget was too low. Tom Partridge noted that he had never received a comment before that the budget being too low was the

reason for voting NO. He noted that more feedback from the public would be helpful. The general sentiment from the audience was that the budget failed because it was too high and not for any specific reason.

Lee Hanson gave an extended speech in support of the education budget. Noting that the administration was new, impressive and capable, and deserved time to make the necessary changes.

The Moderator called for a motion to adjourn to a Machine vote. The motion was proposed, seconded and passed by voice vote at 9:00 p.m.

W. Derek Buckley
Town Clerk

TOWN OFFICIALS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

William J. Kupinse, Jr., First Selectman
Emmett Wallace, deceased
Robert H. Lessler
Scott S. Centrella

TOWN CLERK

W. Derek Buckley

TREASURER

Suzanne McCauley

TAX COLLECTOR

Patrice Hildenbrand

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Nicholas Soares, Democratic
Eunice K. Hanson, Republican

BOARD OF FINANCE

Thomas Partridge
Andrew Kachele
C Lee Hanson
Phillip Petron
Thomas Herrmann
Elise Broach

Alternates

Maria Gaines
Kirk Bennett
Arthur Laske III

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Hugh Barry, Chairman
Donald Calvert
Judy K. Weinstein
A. Reynolds Gordon— Alternate
Lori Mezes - Alternate

LIBRARY BOARD

Rita Seclow-Chair
Jon Sonneborn
Joanne M. Sezon
John Vance Hancock
Michael Kot
Elaine H. Spicer

EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Andrea Rowland
Glenn Maiorano
Alfred Treidel
John Allan
Dr. Daniel Underberger
Dr. Alan Katz

REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Judith N. Shapiro-Chair
Arthur Poltrack
Peter Bonfanti
Julia Pemberton
Mark Lewis
Catherine Gombos-Treasurer
Huntley Stone
Paul N. Coppinger

CONSTABLES

George A. Beno
James Mellen
Joseph Silhavy
Irving Silverman
Russell Neary
Gloria Bindelglass
Gerald G. Mulligan

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/TOWN ENGINEER

Edward L. Nagy

POLICE CHIEF

John F. Solomon

COMPTROLLER

Grace Stanczyk

DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

Christopher Michos, M.D.
Paula A. Edwards, Health Officer

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

William Chiarenzelli

BUILDING OFFICIAL

Emil Martin

FIRE CHIEF

Douglas VonHoltz

PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

John Cunningham, Chair
Thomas Cable, Vice Chair
Cheryl Everett
Kathleen A. Roach
Kathleen Smith
Robert Menegay
Michael Fleischer

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

Robert Maquat, Chair
Paul Dominiani
Wallace Williams
Marje Tracy
Russell Leggett

Alternates

Elaine Spicer
Darrin Silhavy
Steve Carlson

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Raymond W. Ganim
Victor George
Mitchell Greenberg
John Harris-Chair
Thomas Herrmann

Alternates

Patricia Berlin
Thomas Dollard
Gregory Alves

INSURANCE COMMISSION

Wendy Bowditch
Peter Pisaretz
John Allan
John Harrington
William J. Kupinse, Jr.

TREE WARDEN

Richard B. McLaughlin

MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY

Patricia Finick

**ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER /
WETLANDS ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**
Phillip A. Doremus

ASSESSOR

Teresa Rainieri

MEASURER OF WOOD

Joseph Silhavy
Irving Snow

FIRE MARSHALL

Peter G. Neary
Deputy Marshals
Lucy Crossman
Schuyler Sherwood
Amy Merriman

BOARD OF ETHICS

Richard Scalo
Michael Reisman
Sal Morlando
Beverly Nardone
Barbara Stowell

**GREATER BRIDGEPORT REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY
REPRESENTATIVES**

Wallace Williams
John Neary

**EASTON REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SOUTHWESTERN
CONNECTICUT EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
COUNCIL**

Marjorie Smith

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER, INC.
REPRESENTATIVE**

Jonathan Maisel

POLICE COMMISSION

Kathleen Cunningham
Charles Feld
John Neary
Marvin Gelfand
Ronald Kowalski, II

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMISSION

William Chiarenzelli
Jonathan Maisel, M.D.
Robert Adriani
Gloria Bindelglass
Adele O'Kane

PENSION & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMISSION

Alan Goldbecker Chair
Dennis M. Laccavole-Secretary
John D. Morris
A. Reynolds Gordon
Sally Sumerlin
Marvin Gelfand
Salvatore Tartaglione
William J. Kupinse, Jr.

SOLID WASTE COMMISSION

Clint Salko, Chairman
Thomas Collins
Anthony Colonnese
Thomas Dollard
Philip Snow

ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE EASTON SENIOR CENTER

Robert Factor
Anne Fiyalka
Janet Gordon
Prabha Gupta
Joan Kirk
Sharon Cregeen
Claire J. Paolini, Ph.D.
Marilyn Santella-Alternate
Sal Santella
Alice Weissman

FIRE COMMISSION

George Beno
Ralph Altieri
Elbert Burr
Anthony Colonnese
Theresa Connell

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Stephen Edwards
 Adam Dunsby
 Dori Wollen
 Eleanor Sylvestro
 Robert Falkenhagen
 Stephen Corti
 Roy Gosse
Alternates
 Robin Filion
 Peggy Macaluso

COMMISSION FOR THE AGING

Linda Dollard
 Jennifer Alves
 Phyllis Neary
 Gail Gay
Alternates
 Sharon Poole
 Nancy Gavigan

AREA NINE CABLE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Dolly Curtis

**CONNECTICUT COASTAL FAIRFIELD COUNTY
CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAU**

Mary Ann Freeman

HUMAN RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Grace Stanczyk
 Tony Colonnese
 Valerie Buckley
 Kathleen Loudon
 Phillip Petron
 William J. Kupinse, Jr.

SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

Dave Davies
 Althea J. Falco
 Gary Csanadi
 Terry Calgreen
 Kathleen Loudon
 Kay Oestreicher
 Mary Enos
 Gary Simone
 Robert Cocivi
 Keith Rivoir

SOCIAL SERVICES

Josephine Stenqvist, Director

SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE 2001

Theodore Catino
 Ralph Delia, Jr.
 Fred Loder
 Peg Macaluso
 Steve Rowland, AIA
 Robert Alan Schrage
 Huntley J. Stone
 Daniel M. Underberger, M.D.
 Glen Maiorano
 David Orticelli
 Joseph Silhavy
 Joseph Schwartz

TAX RELIEF FOR THE ELDERLY COMMITTEE 2003

Valerie Buckley
 Walter Eastwood
 Pat Finick
 Reynolds Gordon, Esq.
 Claire J. Paolini, Ph.D.
 Lawrence Bartz
 Michael Conway

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

W. Derek Buckley
 Phillip Doremus
 Lois Bloom
 Robert Bloom-Alternate
 Jonathan Fanton-Alternate
 Mary Lou Weinstein-Alternate

SENIOR CENTER BUILDING COMMITTEE

John Bromer
 Paul Altieri
 Joseph Schettino
 Foster McKeon
 Robert Sullivan

ANIMAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

Collen Goble
 Marnie Waiwat
 Mildred Nicoll
 Clinton Hackson
 Clarence Jennings

TOWN DEPARTMENTS AND EMPLOYEES

SELECTMAN'S OFFICE

William J. Kupinse, Jr., 1st Selectman
 Scott Centrella, Selectman
 Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
 Althea J. Falco, Administrative Assistant
 Diane Zadrozny, Receptionist
 Terry J. Calgreen, Custodian

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk & Registrar of
 Vital Statistics
 Joan Kirk, Assistant Town Clerk & Assistant
 Registrar of Vital Statistics
 Deborah Szegedi – Assistant Town Clerk &
 Assistant Registrar of Vital Statistics

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Suzanne McCauley, Treasurer
 Grace Stanczyk, Comptroller
 Kathleen Loudon, HRCC
 Diane Zadrozny, Accounts Payable Clerk

PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

John Hayes, Land Use Director
 Phillip A. Doremus, Zoning Enforcement Officer
 Margaret Anania, Secretary

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Margaret Anania, Secretary

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Emil Martin, Building Official
 Josephine Stenqvist, Secretary

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Christopher J. Michos, M.D., Director of Health
 Paula (Polly) Edwards, Health Official
 Sheila Piritzky, Secretary

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Phillip A. Doremus, Wetlands Enforcement Officer
 Janice Greiser, Secretary

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Teresa Rainieri, Assessor
 Louise Oakes, Assessor's Assistant

TAX COLLECTOR

Patrice Hildenbrand, Tax Collector
 Janice Greiser, Assistant Tax Collector

MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY

Patricia Finick, Agent
 Pamela Healy, Outreach Worker

SENIOR CENTER

Valerie Buckley, Director
 Cheryl (Kay) Oestreicher, Part-time Assistant
 Maria Moura, Custodian
 Paul Greiser, Driver

PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Gary Simone, Director
 Lauren DiMartino, Programmer
 Danielle Alves, After School Program Coordinator
 Chris Lemos, Maintenance Supervisor
 Walt Litzie, Maintainer I
 Katherine Klaff, Secretary

LIBRARY

Bernadette Baldino, Director
 Sharon Daniel, Assistant Director
 K. Kelly Gile, Children's/Young Adult Librarian

Library Assistants

Barbara Fitchen
 Ann A. Salvia
 Penelope Papadoulis
 Peggy Ordway
 Nancy Harris
 Pat Bosak

Library Aides

Lisa Macaluso
 Trevor Jaffe
 Carla Macaluso
 Julia Mazzeo
 Ryan Santoro
 Becca McCann
 Eric March
 Daniel Guan
 Elizabeth Mo

POLICE DEPARTMENT

John F. Solomon, Police Chief
 James R. Candee, Captain
 Richard Doyle, Lieutenant
 William Spencer, Sergeant
 Diane Barriga, Administrative Assistant
 Bonnie Protsko, Records Clerk I
 Joanne Benson, Records Clerk II

Police Officers

Jonathan Arnold
 Christopher Barton
 Thomas Brennan
 David Buck
 Thomas Ceccarelli
 Gary Csanadi
 Tamra French

James Iannucci
 Mark Pastor
 David Simpson

Special Officers

John Bech
 Craig Tibbals
 Oreibis Flores

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT***Dispatchers***

Susana B. Santos

Matt Eckert

Chris Lazar

Part Time Dispatchers

Richard Applebaum

Cheryl Smolinsky

Ann Slimak

Joanne Benson

Cari-Ann Logie

Susan Marek

CANINE CONTROL

Kelly Fitch, Dog Warden

Mary Munck, Assistant Dog Warden

Marjorie Costa, Assistant Dog Warden

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Nicholas Soares, Democratic

Eunice Hanson, Republican

James Bromer

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Edward L. Nagy, Director and Town Engineer

Keith Rivoir, Acting Highway Superintendent

Jeanie Schwartz, Secretary

Daniel Treadwell, Lead Mechanic/Garage Manager

HIGHWAYMEN

Neil Kopchyak

Martin Ohradan

Scott Smith

Don Perkins

Oscar Sampaio

Jamie Correia

Mark Iacobucci

Jason Perkins

Mark Alves

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Marjorie Smith, EMS Service Chief

Jonathan Arnold, EMS Assistant Service Chief

Eric Hebert, EMT

Joseph Klonis - EMT

PART TIME EMT

Marjorie Olschan

Victor Malindretos

Victoria Cavanagh

Todd Olschan

Carolyn Kearney

Brian Walsh

Greg Saracino

Gabor Meszaros

Antonio DeSimone

Adam Goldstein

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

William Chiarenzelli

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Douglas Von Holtz, Fire Chief

Steve Bittner, Second Assistant Chief

Peter Neary, Fire Marshal

Schuyler D. Sherwood, Deputy Fire Marshal

Lucy Crossman, Deputy Fire Marshal

Amy Merriman, Deputy Fire Marshal

Firemen

Wayne Crossman

Michael Ohradan

James Wright

R. David Davies

ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING STAFF

SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL

Fox-Santora, Kimberly

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

LaTorre, Catherine

DIRECTOR SPECIAL SERVICES

Dekle, Donna

TEACHERS

Anderson, Claudia
Arlotta, Jeanine
Ashby, Charleen
Bachelder, Maureen
Barnhart, Holly
Bates, Allan
Bianco, Stacey
Brakeman, John
Brennan, Kristen
Connaughton, Anne
Conti, Callen
Cooper, Donald
Cox, Kelly
Deangelis-Huntington, Alison
DeFilippo-Green, Jennifer
Duffy, Lynne
Edwards, Jennifer
Fuller, Amy
Giglio-Opalinski, Elizabeth L.
Gormley, Sara
Haber, Rachel
Hobbs, Laura
Holroyd, Stephanie
Inglis, Beverly
Kaplan, Susan
Kuruc, Jill M.
Lavine, Marcy
Linker, Ellen
MacArthur, Carey
Maggi, Courtney
Marchetti, Emily
Melillo, Steven
Menegay, Judith
Menegay, Robert
Minty, Paige
Muccio, Mary
Nicola, Diana
Olschan, Kathryn
Paciello, Sunny Michelle
Potok, Michelle
Rianhard, Stephen
Russo, Christopher
Sacharko, Erika
Saltzman, Valerie
Scholz, Darcy
Selvaggi, Arlene

Simmons, Helen
Snow, Erin
Studeny, Jason
Traggianese, Amy
Woodford, Karen

SPECIAL ED TEACHERS

Breuer, Wanda
Herrick, Robert
Horan, Patsy
Langlois, Laura
Loescher, Maria
Morrow, Patricia
Orendorf, Leslie
Pico, Katharine
Stern, Karen
Wulf, Linda

HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL

Parker, Joan

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Cooke, Sandra

TEACHERS

Bayers, Barbara
Breyer, David A.
Brodeur, Cynthia
Cioppa, Roberta
Cockerham, Arthur
Culliton, Nancy
DiGregorio, Joseph
Gass, Theodore
Gettler, Sally
Grenier, Mary
Henry, Paula
Heran, Kimberly
King, Jean
LaValle, Robert
MacMillan, Sarah
Maggi, Linda
Mahoney, Cindy
Marusa, Debora
Miller, Kevin
Rose, Jennifer
Savard, Ellyn
Schweikert, Karen
Scrivani, Ann
Sheehy, Mary Ann
Solis, Nicole
Stenefjord, Maria
Thomas, Patricia
Tramontano, Jean
Ustie, Elizabeth
Weinschel, Carol
Zawisza, Monika

SPECIAL ED TEACHERS

Cuttner, Nancy
Donegan, Tracey
Richter, Leslie
Salko-Peddle, Sheila H.

JOEL BARLOW REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL #9

PRINCIPAL

Calabro, Ross

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Haig, Susan

TEACHERS

Albano, Donna
Andrews, Danielle
Angelis, Michael
Antal, Steven
Bailey, Beth
Barna, Frederick
Bender, Judith
Benedetto, Carie
Bielizna, Jerome
Breault, Christopher
Brix, Nancy
Budd, Jonathan S.
Campbell, Nicole
Carleton, Emily
Christman, Amy LaChance
Ciancio, Brian
Cox, Robert
Crowley, John
D'Amato, Daniela
Desmarais, Jennifer
Destefano, Judith
Detelich, Charles
DeVoto, James
Dolan, James
Ecsedy, Michael
Egan, Jeanne F.
Eller, George
Erickson, Ashley
Estes, Lori
Fredericks, Rebecca
Garamella, Judith
Garvey, Janice
Gervasoni, Fred
Gordon, Suzanne
Hamlin, Paul B.
Hopper, James
Huebner, Ileana
Huot, Charles
Internann, Michael
Kilbourn, Maureen
Kilbourn, Thomas
Lazowski, Catherine
Leahey, Barbara
Levesque, Anne Marie
Lewis, John
Light, Randall
Luchansky, Jeanne
Luzietti, Brian H.
Magrino, Filomena
McNulty, Vincenza Jane
McTague, Julie
Morton, Susan

Nocturne, Margaret
Norris, David
Nuzzo, Katherine
Panos, Paula
Pieratti, Maryanne
Pirie, Eliza
Potpinka, Thomas
Poulos, Christopher
Preis, Deirdra
Queen, Christine
Ramirez, Jennifer Short
Rao, Christina
Reimold, Scott
Richter, Thomas
Roberts, Marlene
Saluga, Richard
Santangeli, Michael
Sibley, Barbara
Smith, Barbara
Smith, Randall
Soffa, Tracy
Spinner, Daniel
Staley, Jessica
Staron, Angela
Taubner, Debra
Therien, Beth
VanAusdal, Sandra
Waterman, Waltraut

SPECIAL ED TEACHERS

Adamakos, Margaret
Angell, Christopher
Barcham, Dale
Brown, Jeffrey
Feranec, Sandra
Hrebin, Mary Pat
Lavoie, Diane
Powers, John
Roszko, Patricia
Schutt, Cheryl
Sullivan, Karen E.

TOWN DIRECTORY

EMERGENCY	911
POLICE - FIRE - AMBULANCE	
NON-EMERGENCY	268-4111
POLICE - FIRE - AMBULANCE	
TOWN HALL	268-6291
FAX	268-4928
FIRST SELECTMAN	
ASSESSOR	
TOWN CLERK	
TAX COLLECTOR	
TREASURER	
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	
PLANNING & ZONING	
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	
CONSERVATION	
REGISTRARS	
LIBRARY	261-0134
SENIOR CENTER	268-1145
MUNICIPAL AGENT	268-1137
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	268-0714
PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT	268-7200
DOG WARDEN	268-9172
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS - CENTRAL OFFICE	261-2513
SAMUEL STAPLES SCHOOL	261-3607
HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL	268-8651
JOEL BARLOW HIGH SCHOOL	334-8003
EASTON POST OFFICE	261-8386
PROBATE JUDGE - JOHN P. CHIOTA	452-5068
FAX	452-5092
STATE OFFICIALS - SENATOR JOHN MCKINNEY	
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN STRIPP	
U.S. OFFICIALS - SENATOR CHRISTOPHER J. DODD	
SENATOR JOSEPH L. LIEBERMAN	
CONGRESSMAN CHRISTOPHER	
SHAYS	

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS - BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Annual Town Meeting	Last Monday in April	8:00 p.m.
Samuel Staples School		
Board of Assessment Appeals		
Assessor's Office Town Hall		
Property Tax Grievances - February		
Motor Vehicle Tax Grievances - September		
Assessor's Office - Town Hall		
Board of Education	Monthly-Check Posting	7:30 p.m.
Helen Keller Middle School		
Board of Ethics	As Required	
Town Hall Conference Room		
Board of Finance	1 st Tuesday	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Board of Selectmen	1 st and 3 rd Thursdays	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Board of Zoning Appeals	1 st Monday	5:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Cemetery Committee	2 nd Monday	April, July, Oct. and January
As Announced		
Commission for the Aging	1 st Monday	5:00 p.m.
Senior Center		
Conservation Commission	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
EMS Commission	2 nd Wednesday	8:00 p.m.
EMS Headquarters		
Fire Commission	3 rd Wednesday	8:00 p.m.
Firehouse		
Human Resources Advisory Committee	As Required	
Insurance Commission	As Required	
Town Hall Conference Room		
Library Board	2 nd Tuesday	8:30 a.m.
Library Conference Room		
Park & Recreation	1 st Monday	7:30 p.m.
As Announced		
Planning & Zoning Commission	2 nd and 4 th Mondays	6:00 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Pension & Employee Benefits	2 nd Tues - Bimonthly	8:30 a.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Police Commission	2 nd Monday	5:30 p.m.
Police Department		
PHNA	4 th Monday	2:00 p.m.
As announced		
Regional Board of Education	Check Posting	7:30 p.m.
Joel Barlow High School		
Tax Relief for the Elderly	As Required	
Town Hall Conference Room		
2001 School Building Committee	2 nd and 4 th Monday of every month	7:30 p.m.
As Announced		
2003 School building Committee	1 st Wednesday of each month	
As Announced		

TOWN CALENDAR

Town Hall Hours:

SELECTMAN'S OFFICE	Monday - Friday	8:30 – 4:30
ASSESSOR	Monday - Friday	8:30 – 4:30
TOWN CLERK	Monday - Friday	9:00 – 2:00
TAX COLLECTOR	Monday - Friday	8:30 – 1:00 & 2:00 – 4:30
TREASURER	Monday - Friday	8:30 – 4:30
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	Monday - Friday Mon-Homeowners Only	8:30 – 12:30 & 1:00 – 4:30 Till 6:00
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	8:30 – 12:30 & 1:00 – 4:30
PLANNING & ZONING	Mon.,-Tues.,-Thurs., Friday	9:30 – 1:30
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Wednesday	9:30 – 1:30
CONSERVATION	Monday - Friday	8:30 – 12:30
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS	Thursday	9:30 – 3:00
LIBRARY	Monday, Friday Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday Saturday Closed Sundays	10:00 – 5:00 10:00 – 8:00 10:00 – 6:00 10:00 – 3:00
SENIOR CENTER	Monday - Friday	8:00 – 4:00
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	Monday - Friday	8:00 – 1:00
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	Monday - Friday	7:00 – 3:30
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT	Monday - Friday	8:30 – 12:30
TAXES DUE	FIRST HALF July 1 st SECOND HALF January 1 st	
DOG LICENSES DUE – TOWN CLERK	June 1 st	
HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES – TOWN CLERK	All Year	
REGISTRATION OF BEES – TOWN CLERK	Before October 1 st	
TRANSFER STATION PERMITS - RECEPTIONIST	Monday – Friday	8:30 – 4:30

THE STAPLES GUARDIAN FUND

The Staples Guardian Fund Annual Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2005.

The Staples Guardian Fund was established by Mr. Samuel Staples on January 7, 1787 to provide monies for the education of poor persons residing in what then was the Town of Weston. The Town of Weston was later subdivided into the present towns of Weston and Easton. By a Special Act of the Connecticut Legislature in 1921, the trust assets in real estate were authorized to be sold, and to invest the proceeds thereof in accordance with the laws relating to the investment of trust funds, with the income to be disbursed between the two towns pro-rata with the number of the enumerated pupils in each town. Pursuant to a second Special Act of Connecticut Legislature in 1967, the Town of Weston shall distribute its share to a scholarship committee, the members of which shall be appointed by the Weston Guardians of The Staples Guardian Fund and approved by the Weston Board of Selectmen. The Staples Scholarship Committee of Weston shall administer the income received to provide college scholarships for Weston residents on the basis of financial need. The Town of Easton directs their distributive share into the General Fund of the Town.

Diane L. Hartman was appointed Treasurer of the Staples Guardian Fund on November 14, 1997. The two Trustees who administer the fund from Weston are Ann Malin and Diane Hartman.

The original stock certificates are kept at the Town of Weston Town Hall, in the custody of the Town Clerk's office, along with the historical records of the fund. The Treasurer's responsibilities include being the custodian of the funds, investing these funds as agreed upon by the trustees, paying obligations, and compiling the annual financial statements and supporting schedules.

Investments for the Staples Guardian Fund at June 30, 2005 were valued at market value and totaled \$66,407.73. The income distribution from investments held was \$1,469.66 for the year ended June 30, 2005. The distribution is relatively the same as the previous year distribution. The Weston Scholarship Committee shall receive \$1,014.59 (69.04%) and the Town of Easton will receive \$455.07 (30.96%) based on an October 1, 2004 pupil count of 2,535 Weston students and 1,137 Easton students.



Business Advisors and Certified Public Accountants

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Springfield, MA

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Web www.kostin.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Finance
Town of Easton, Connecticut

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Easton, Connecticut, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2005, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These basic financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the basic financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and the significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall basic financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Easton, Connecticut, as of June 30, 2005, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the general fund for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated November 15, 2005, on our consideration of the Town's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The Management Discussion and Analysis and Schedule of Funding Progress - Easton Retirement System on pages 3 through 11 and page 46, respectively, are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.



November 15, 2005
Page Two

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Easton, Connecticut's basic financial statements. The accompanying financial information listed as supplemental schedules in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining fund financial statements and other schedules as listed in the table of contents have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The trend information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Kostin, Ruffkess & Company, LLC

Farmington, Connecticut
November 15, 2005



Town of Easton

TOWN HALL - 225 CENTER ROAD, P.O. BOX 61
EASTON, CONNECTICUT 06612

TELEPHONE (203) 268-6291
FAX (203) 268-4928

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Management of the Town of Easton offers readers of these financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005. Readers of this report are encouraged to consider the information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in our letter of transmittal in the introductory section of this report, as well as the Town's basic financial statements.

The purpose of the MD&A is to provide to the reader an interpretation of the financial information and results of the fiscal year.

Financial Highlights

- The assets of the Town exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$30,637,601 (*net assets*). Of this amount, \$4,857,311 (*unrestricted net assets*) may be used to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- The Town's total net assets increased by \$5,389,120. Substantially all of the increase is attributable to capital expenditures in excess of depreciation expense.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$3,940,976, a decrease of \$10,079,372 in comparison with the prior year. The amount of \$3,469,767 is *available for spending* at the Town's discretion (*unreserved fund balance*).
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unreserved fund balance for the general fund was \$3,779,986 or 12.5% of total general fund expenditures and transfers out.
- The Town of Easton's total long-term obligations increased by \$8,028,571 (22.9%) during the current fiscal year. The key factor in this increase is the bond anticipation notes (BANs) of \$9,600,000 for the new elementary school capital project that were permanently refinanced by a bond issue in November 2005.

Overview of the Basic Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the Town of Easton's basic financial statements. The Town's basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to basic financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-wide financial statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Town's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *statement of net assets* presents information on all of the Town's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Town is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the Town's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

The government-wide financial statements present only governmental activities whose functions are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, since the Town does not operate any business-type activities. The governmental activities of the Town include general government, public safety, public works, health and welfare, education, library, and parks and recreation.

Fund financial statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Town can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds.

Governmental funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a Town's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the Town's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

Overview of the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

Governmental funds. (Continued)

The Town maintains 21 individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the general fund and bonded capital project fund, both of which are considered to be major funds. Data from the other 19 governmental funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation. Individual fund data for each of these nonmajor governmental funds is provided in the form of combining statements elsewhere in this report.

The Town adopts an annual budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the general fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

Proprietary funds. The Town maintains one proprietary fund. Internal service funds are an accounting device used to accumulate and allocate costs internally among the Town's various functions. The Town uses an internal service fund to account for the Board of Education medical insurance benefits. This activity has been included within governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements.

Fiduciary funds. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the Town. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Town's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds.

Notes to basic financial statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Other information. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the Town's progress in funding its obligation to provide pension benefits to its employees.

The combining statements referred to earlier in connection with nonmajor governmental funds are presented immediately following the required supplementary information on pensions. Combining and individual fund statements and schedules can be found on Schedules 4 and 5.

Government-wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of a Town's financial position. In the case of the Town, assets exceeded liabilities by \$30,637,601 at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

A large portion of the Town's net assets (82.6%) reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, construction in progress, land improvements, buildings, building improvements, machinery and equipment and vehicles), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The Town uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

**TOWN OF EASTON NET ASSETS
JUNE 30, 2005**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
		2004
	2005	(as restated)
Current and other assets.....	\$ 12,702,227	\$ 25,561,543
Capital assets (net).....	68,888,773	44,433,340
Total assets	81,591,000	69,994,883
Long-term liabilities outstanding.....	43,085,022	35,056,451
Other liabilities	7,868,377	9,689,951
Total liabilities	50,953,399	44,746,402
Net assets:		
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt.....	25,309,081	10,533,340
Restricted.....	471,209	12,005,295
Unrestricted	4,857,311	2,709,846
Total net assets.....	\$ 30,637,601	\$ 25,248,481

A portion of the Town's net assets (1.54%) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of unrestricted net assets, \$4,857,311, may be used to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town is able to report positive balances in all three categories of net assets for the Town as a whole. The Town's net assets increased by \$5,389,120 during the current fiscal year. The majority of this increase is attributable to capital expenditures in excess of depreciation expense.

The most significant capital expenditures relate to the construction of the Town's new elementary school. The new elementary school was opened and occupied as of September 1, 2005.

**TOWN OF EASTON CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005**

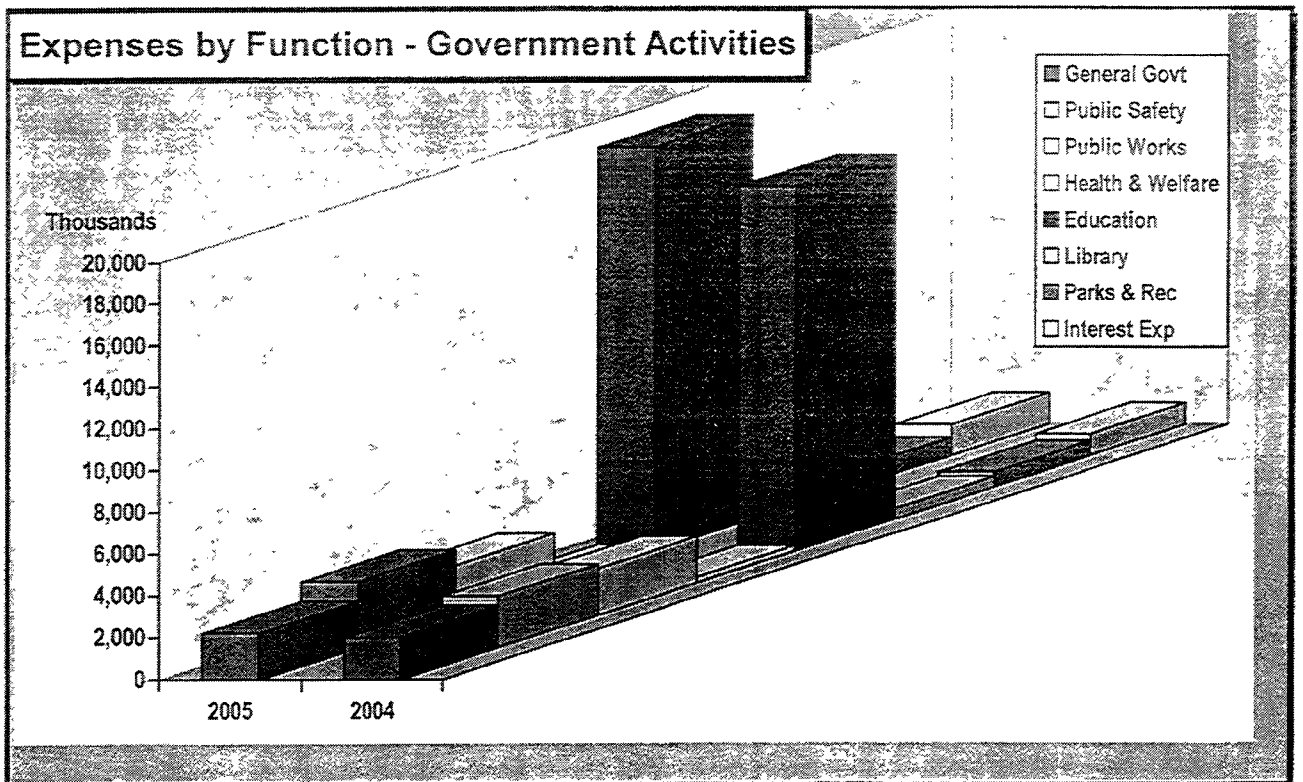
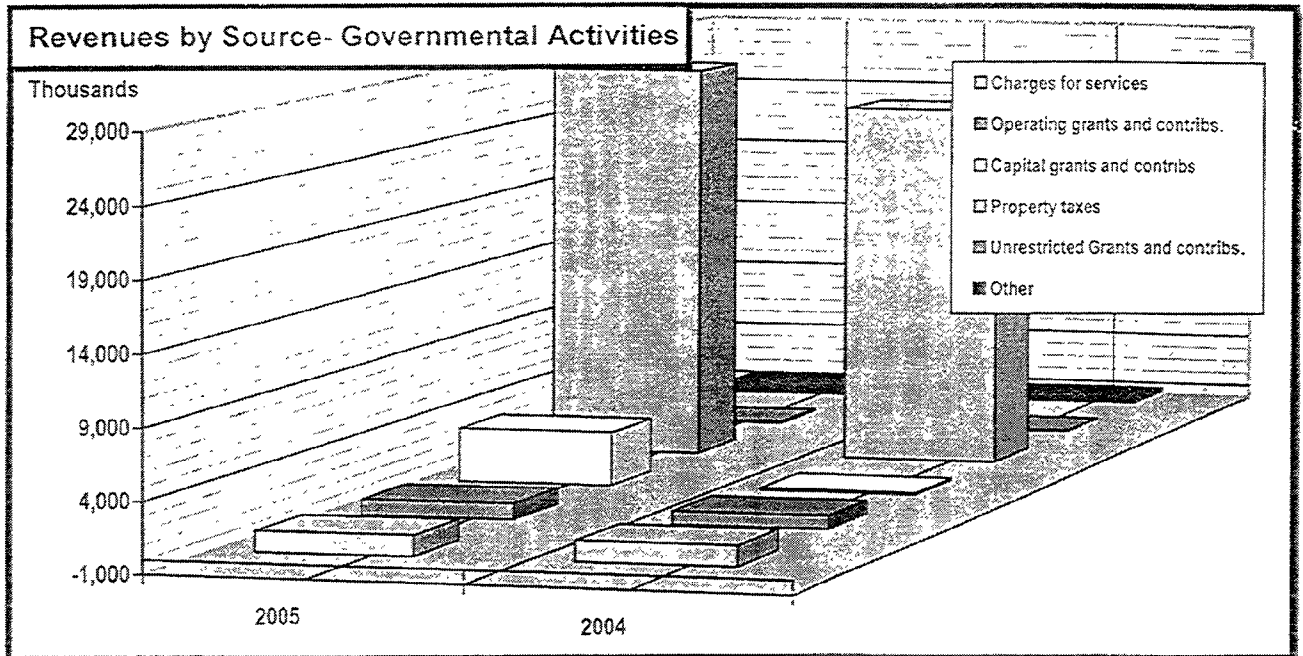
	Governmental Activities	
	2005	2004 (as restated)
Revenues		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 1,472,783	\$ 1,450,849
Operating grants and contributions	1,152,994	950,550
Capital grants and contributions.....	3,889,545	156,000
General revenues:		
Property taxes.....	28,650,749	26,128,977
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs	112,801	61,712
Other... ..	641,389	284,974
Total Revenues	35,920,261	29,033,062
Expenses		
General government ..	2,215,716	2,007,578
Public safety	3,152,802	2,445,540
Public works.....	2,399,318	2,252,673
Health and welfare.....	330,177	282,922
Education ..	19,460,980	17,559,437
Library. .	596,569	528,048
Parks and recreation	873,680	742,292
Interest expense ..	1,501,899	1,036,604
Total Expenses	30,531,141	26,855,094
Increase in net assets	5,389,120	2,177,968
Net assets - July 1	25,248,481	23,070,513
Net assets - June 30	\$ 30,637,601	\$ 25,248,481

Property taxes increased by \$2,521,772 (9.65%) during the year. Most of this increase is to fund normal operating increases including the increased debt service for the bonding of the new elementary school.

Operating grants increased slightly during the year and the capital grants also increased due to state reimbursements for the new elementary school capital project.

Public safety expenses increased by \$707,262 due to the fact that the police union contract expired at June 30, 2001 and was settled by arbitration award in February 2005. This reflects four years of adjusted wages. Interest expense increased by \$465,295 due to the issuance of general obligation bonds on November 1, 2004 and interest on additional bond anticipation notes for the new elementary school project. For the most part, increases in the other expenses closely paralleled inflation and growth in the demand for services.

Expenses and Program Revenues - Governmental Activities



Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds

As noted earlier, the Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental funds. The focus of the Town's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a Town's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the Town's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$3,940,976, a decrease of \$10,079,372 from the prior year due to capital outlay expenditures for the new elementary school capital project. Approximately 88% of this amount, \$3,469,767, constitutes unreserved fund balance, which is available for spending at the Town's discretion. The remainder of fund balance is reserved to indicate that it is not available for new spending because it has already been committed to pay other commitments.

The general fund is the operating fund of the Town. At the end of the current fiscal year, total and unreserved fund balance was \$3,779,986. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare the unreserved fund balance to total fund expenditures. Unreserved and undesignated fund balance represents 11.7% of total general fund expenditures and other financing uses, while total fund balance represents 12.5% of that same amount.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The most significant difference between the original budget and the final amended budget included additional appropriations (\$265,470) and budget transfers (\$10,030) from various departments to the transfers out account to purchase equipment and services for revaluation of property. The Town meeting approved a special appropriation of \$62,500 to the Town Attorney account during this fiscal year. The Board of Finance made special appropriations to the Board of Education for repairs, to the Planning and Zoning for professional services, to the Land Purchase account for services, to the Senior Center for maintenance and repair, to the Town Clerk for capital repairs, to Emergency Management for generator repair, and to the Treasurer for a computer repair. The variance in debt service expenditures of \$388,569 was substantially due to budgeting the paydown of bond anticipation notes for school technology.

A significant budget variance was a positive variance of \$166,745 in the fringe benefit account mainly due to lower than expected health insurance costs.

Bonded Capital Projects Fund

This fund accounts for financial resources from general obligation bonds to be used for major capital asset construction and/or purchases. During the year ended June 30, 2005, nearly all of the expenditures were for the construction of the new elementary school.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital assets. The Town's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of June 30, 2005 is \$68,888,773 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, construction in progress, land improvements, buildings, building improvements, machinery and equipment and vehicles.

Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year included the following:

- Continued construction in progress for the new elementary school.
- Additional renovations at Samuel Staples School.
- Purchase of a new fire truck
- The remaining expenditures consisted of various equipment and vehicles for Town departments.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration (Continued)

**TOWN OF EASTON CAPITAL ASSETS
(NET OF DEPRECIATION)**

	Governmental Activities	
	2005	2004 (as restated)
Land	\$ 12,878,656	\$ 12,878,656
Construction in progress	28,482,618	16,551,688
Land improvements	26,313	31,594
Buildings	25,612,784	13,249,695
Building improvements	16,529	16,980
Machinery and equipment	367,466	337,296
Vehicles	1,504,407	1,367,431
Total	<u>\$ 68,888,773</u>	<u>\$ 44,433,340</u>

Additional information on the Town's capital assets can be found in Note III.C of this report.

Long-term debt. At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town had total debt outstanding of \$41,830,000 (excluding premium and deferred charge). All of this debt comprises debt backed by the full faith and credit of the Town.

**TOWN OF EASTON OUTSTANDING DEBT
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS**

	Governmental Activities	
	2005	2004
General obligation bonds - Town improvements	\$ 8,511,500	\$ 9,190,000
General obligation bonds - School improvements	23,718,500	12,210,000
Bond anticipation notes	9,600,000	12,500,000
Total	<u>\$ 41,830,000</u>	<u>\$ 33,900,000</u>

The Town is also obligated for a portion of the Regional School District No. 9 general obligation debt in the net amount of \$8,150,886.

The Town's total debt increased by \$8,028,571 (22.9%) during the current fiscal year.

In November 2005, the Town issued \$9,600,000 in bonds and \$3,500,000 in bond anticipation notes. The ratings by Moody's Investor Services were Aa1 for the bonds and MIG 1 for the bond anticipation notes. The interest rates for both bonds and the notes were 3.75% to 5% and 4%, respectively.

During the fiscal year, the Town made principal payments of \$1,670,000 and interest payments of \$1,236,961 for school and general purpose debt.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration (Continued)

The Town maintains an "Aa1" rating from Moody's Investor Services for general obligation debt.

State statutes limit the amount of general obligation debt a governmental entity may issue to 7 times total tax collections including interest and lien fees and the tax relief for elderly freeze grant. The current debt limitation for the Town is \$201,928,958, which is significantly in excess of the Town's outstanding general obligation debt.

Additional information on the Town's long-term debt can be found in Note III.F of this report.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates

The following are some factors that were considered in preparing the Town's budget for the 2006 fiscal year:

- The unemployment rate for the Town is currently 3.2%. This compares favorably to the state's average unemployment rate of 4.4% and the national average rate of 4.9%.
- Inflationary trends in the region compare favorably to national indices
- To address the projected future school enrollment, the Town passed a referendum in 2004 to approve the construction of a new elementary school (K-5). The school was opened as of September 2, 2005. The continuing effects of the bond issue on the Town budget will be felt in the fiscal year 2006.
- The former elementary school building is partially leased to a private school and partially utilized by the Town's Senior Center.
- Town's elected and appointed officials considered Town-wide trends when setting the fiscal year 2006 budget. The Town decided that it was important to continue to support the school system and adopt a budget designed to promote long-term financial stability. In order to meet these objectives, the Town recognized the need to continue its pattern of conservative budgeting while at the same time providing excellent services to our residents and taxpayers.
- At June 30, 2005, unreserved and undesignated fund balance in the general fund was \$3,531,986.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the **Chairman, Board of Finance** or the **Office of the Comptroller**, Town of Easton, 225 Center Road, Easton, Connecticut 06612.

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
JUNE 30, 2005

	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
<hr/>	
<u>ASSETS</u>	
Current assets	
Cash.....	\$ 183,022
Investments.....	10,666,870
Receivables	
Property taxes.....	257,662
Intergovernmental.....	229,174
Accounts.....	96,283
Other assets.....	10,838
Bond issue costs.....	7,458
Net pension asset.....	31,117
	<hr/>
Total current assets.....	11,482,424
	<hr/>
Noncurrent assets	
Receivables (net):	
Property taxes.....	470,043
Intergovernmental.....	662,158
	<hr/>
Total receivables (net).....	1,132,201
	<hr/>
Other noncurrent assets	
Bond issue costs.....	87,602
	<hr/>
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	
Land.....	12,878,656
Construction in progress.....	28,482,618
Land improvements.....	26,313
Buildings.....	25,612,784
Building improvements.....	16,529
Machinery and equipment.....	367,466
Vehicles.....	1,504,407
	<hr/>
Total capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation).....	68,888,773
	<hr/>
Total noncurrent assets.....	70,108,576
	<hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS.....	81,591,000
	<hr/>

(Continued)

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
JUNE 30, 2005

	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
LIABILITIES	
Current liabilities	
Accounts payable.....	\$ 3,119,426
Accrued liabilities.....	760,274
Accrued interest payable.....	487,000
Due to Regional School District No. 9.....	476,759
Unearned revenue.....	24,918
Bond anticipation notes.....	3,000,000
Total current liabilities.....	7,868,377
Noncurrent liabilities.	
Long-term liabilities due within one year	12,053,220
Long-term liabilities due in more than one year	31,031,802
Total noncurrent liabilities	43,085,022
TOTAL LIABILITIES	50,953,399
<u>NET ASSETS</u>	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt.....	25,309,081
Restricted for:	
Capital projects.. ..	471,209
Unrestricted.....	4,857,311
TOTAL NET ASSETS.....	\$ 30,637,601
	(Concluded)

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2005

	GENERAL	BONDED CAPITAL PROJECTS	OTHER GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Cash	\$ 83,075	\$	\$ 99,947	\$ 183,022
Investments	7,019,349	1,781,468	1,866,053	10,666,870
Receivables				
Property taxes	506,218			506,218
Accounts	96,283			96,283
Intergovernmental	44,811		7,076	51,887
Due from other funds	682,795	15,567	1,200,861	1,899,223
Other assets			10,838	10,838
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 8,432,531	\$ 1,797,035	\$ 3,184,775	\$ 13,414,341
<u>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</u>				
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$ 1,868,495	\$ 1,100,815	\$ 12,292	\$ 2,981,602
Accrued liabilities	760,274			760,274
Due to Regional School District No. 9	340,037			340,037
Due to other funds	1,216,428	583,697	99,098	1,899,223
Unearned revenue	467,311		24,918	492,229
Bond anticipation notes		3,000,000		3,000,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,652,545	4,684,512	136,308	9,473,365
FUND BALANCES				
Reserved for				
Commitments		471,209		471,209
Unreserved, reported in				
Designated for potential claims	140,000			140,000
Designated for debt service	108,000			108,000
General fund	3,531,986			3,531,986
Special revenue funds			2,107,937	2,107,937
Capital projects funds		(3,358,686)	940,530	(2,418,156)
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	3,779,986	(2,887,477)	3,048,467	3,940,976
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 8,432,531	\$ 1,797,035	\$ 3,184,775	\$ 13,414,341

(Continued)

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
RECONCILIATION OF FUND BALANCES
TO NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
JUNE 30, 2005

AMOUNTS REPORTED FOR GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS (EXHIBIT A) ARE DIFFERENT FROM THE GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE SHEET. THE DETAILS OF THIS DIFFERENCE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

TOTAL FUND BALANCES (EXHIBIT C, PAGE 1)	\$ 3,940,976
CAPITAL ASSETS USED IN GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES ARE NOT FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND, THEREFORE, ARE NOT REPORTED IN THE FUNDS	
Beginning net capital assets and current additions	69,626,844
Depreciation expense	(710,038)
Disposal of capital assets	(28,033)
OTHER LONG-TERM ASSETS ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO PAY FOR CURRENT PERIOD EXPENDITURES AND, THEREFORE, ARE DEFERRED IN THE FUNDS	
Property tax interest and lien accrual	310,839
Property tax receivable - accrual basis change	467,311
School building grant receivable	839,445
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(89,352)
Bond issue costs	95,060
Net pension asset	31,117
INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS ARE USED BY MANAGEMENT TO CHARGE THE COST OF MEDICAL INSURANCE TO INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENTS	
The assets and liabilities of the internal service funds are included in governmental activities in the statement of net assets	(274,546)
SOME LIABILITIES, INCLUDING BONDS PAYABLE, ARE NOT DUE AND PAYABLE IN THE CURRENT PERIOD AND, THEREFORE, ARE NOT REPORTED IN THE FUNDS	
Beginning long-term liabilities and current year additions	(45,415,242)
Long-term liability payments	2,174,972
Accrued interest payable	(487,000)
Deferred charges	188,911
Bond premium	(33,663)
NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	<u>\$ 30,637,601</u>
	(Concluded)

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement

SCHEDULE 1

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	FINAL BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE WITH FINAL BUDGET
PROPERTY TAXES				
Property taxes, current and prior	\$ 28,145,078	\$ 28,145,078	\$ 28,533,206	\$ 388,128
Interest and lien fees	95,000	95,000	155,755	60,755
Telephone access	44,000	44,000	55,941	11,941
TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES	28,284,078	28,284,078	28,744,902	460,824
INTERGOVERNMENTAL				
EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE				
Special education and education cost share	248,783	248,783	403,724	154,941
Regional School District No. 9	108,063	108,063	34,257	(73,806)
School building grant	429,479	429,479	180,643	(248,836)
Other	887	887	837	(50)
TOTAL EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE	787,212	787,212	619,461	(167,751)
TOWN ASSISTANCE				
Town aid roads	45,512	45,512	71,892	26,380
Infrastructure	415,613	415,613		(415,613)
In lieu of tax loss - boats	4,814	4,814	4,814	-
Elderly tax relief	36,642	36,642	39,480	2,838
Tax relief for the totally disabled	275	275	170	(105)
State owned property	56,673	56,673	56,974	301
Civil preparedness	2,458	2,458	1,990	(468)
Property tax relief (veterans)			5,363	5,363
Tax relief - elderly freeze	6,000	6,000	6,000	-
Miscellaneous	2,000	2,000	35	(1,965)
TOTAL TOWN ASSISTANCE	569,987	569,987	186,718	(383,269)
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL	1,357,199	1,357,199	806,179	(551,020)
INVESTMENT INCOME	175,000	175,000	411,397	236,397
CHARGES FOR SERVICES				
Town clerk	325,000	325,000	339,775	14,775
Building inspection fees and permits	150,000	150,000	164,704	14,704
Health department	15,000	15,000	15,230	230
Planning and zoning	25,000	25,000	20,977	(4,023)
Conservation commission	5,250	5,250	7,114	1,864
Police department	33,150	33,150	42,975	9,825
First selectman	60,000	60,000	84,128	24,128
Fire marshal	200	200	360	160
Parks and recreation	650	650	1,390	740
Region 9 tuition			2,910	2,910
BOE tuition			1,910	1,910
Recycling bins			510	510
Highway department	1,800	1,800	1,434	(366)
EMS department	50,000	50,000		(50,000)
Other	2,000	2,000	7,889	5,889
TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES	668,050	668,050	691,306	23,256
TOTAL REVENUES	30,484,327	30,484,327	30,653,784	169,457
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
Appropriation of fund balance		265,470		(265,470)
Sale of capital assets			7,833	7,833
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	-	265,470	7,833	(257,637)
TOTAL REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	\$ 30,484,327	\$ 30,749,797	\$ 30,661,617	\$ (88,180)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS	FINAL BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE WITH FINAL BUDGET
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
Town clerk	\$ 138,892	\$ 9,500	\$ 148,392	\$ 146,065	\$ 2,327
First selectman	141,494		141,494	138,112	3,382
Probate court	3,690		3,690	3,686	4
Registrar of voters	40,985		40,985	39,209	1,776
Board of finance	6,868		6,868	6,369	499
Auditors	35,900		35,900	30,000	5,900
Treasurer	135,878	1,200	137,078	135,477	1,601
Assessor	162,755	(75,000)	87,755	87,313	442
Board of assessment appeals	475		475	287	188
Tax collector	83,969		83,969	80,825	3,144
Town attorney	50,000	62,500	112,500	99,358	13,142
Planning and zoning commission	92,612	11,649	104,261	101,938	2,323
Zoning board of appeals	5,600	230	5,830	5,773	57
Building department	88,952		88,952	80,994	7,958
Town hall	117,373	8,600	125,973	121,363	4,610
Communication dispatchers	196,970		196,970	183,518	13,452
Commission for the elderly	46,621	400	47,021	46,656	365
Senior center	125,440	5,110	130,550	130,537	13
Public celebrations	700		700	178	522
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	1,475,174	24,189	1,499,363	1,437,658	61,705
PUBLIC SAFETY					
Police department	1,200,488	189,813	1,390,301	1,317,927	72,374
Fire department	447,109	(57,000)	390,109	388,650	1,459
Fire marshal	31,796		31,796	23,114	8,682
Emergency management	11,020	5,500	16,520	11,082	5,438
Firehouse rent		40,000	40,000	40,000	-
Conservation commission	33,198	6,000	39,198	35,133	4,065
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	1,723,611	184,313	1,907,924	1,815,906	92,018
PUBLIC WORKS					
Recycling	94,916	52	94,968	94,968	-
Highway department	1,552,922		1,552,922	1,500,624	52,298
Street lights	1,284	15	1,299	1,299	-
Engineering and professional services	23,000	2,000	25,000	15,397	9,603
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	1,672,122	2,067	1,674,189	1,612,288	61,901
HEALTH AND WELFARE					
PHNA	700		700	600	100
Health director	58,708		58,708	57,438	1,270
EMS commission	232,178	(29,000)	203,178	201,957	1,221
Welfare	3,915		3,915	1,214	2,701
TOTAL HEALTH AND WELFARE	295,501	(29,000)	266,501	261,209	5,292

(Continued)

SCHEDULE 2
(2 of 3)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (CONTINUED)

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS	FINAL BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE WITH FINAL BUDGET
EDUCATION					
Easton Board of Education					
General instruction	\$ 5,864,701	\$	\$ 5,864,701	\$ 5,917,919	\$ (53,218)
Kindergarten	10,900		10,900	9,884	1,016
Humanities	40,606		40,606	31,941	8,665
Integrated language arts	34,310		34,310	29,089	5,221
Curriculum	49,816		49,816	33,495	16,321
Industrial technology	9,700		9,700	8,340	1,360
Science/math technology	32,915		32,915	34,035	(1,120)
Physical education/health	6,429		6,429	5,682	747
Special services	17,665		17,665	31,991	(14,326)
Special education	2,270,655		2,270,655	2,225,702	44,953
Guidance	5,610		5,610	5,996	(386)
Health services	141,723		141,723	141,731	(8)
Psychological services	17,350		17,350	13,279	4,071
Speech services	8,050		8,050	3,970	4,080
Educational media services	82,350		82,350	68,176	14,174
Technology plan	135,291		135,291	104,014	31,277
Board of education	61,600		61,600	64,304	(2,704)
Central administration	372,262		372,262	372,213	49
School administration	713,685		713,685	702,039	11,646
Operation/maintenance physical plant	1,018,366	18,930	1,037,296	1,094,773	(57,477)
Student transportation	681,741		681,741	696,082	(14,341)
Total Easton Board of Education	11,575,725	18,930	11,594,655	11,594,655	-
Regional School District No. 9	6,544,827		6,544,827	6,544,827	-
TOTAL EDUCATION	18,120,552	18,930	18,139,482	18,139,482	
LIBRARY					
	458,891		458,891	445,648	13,243
PARKS AND RECREATION					
Parks and recreation commission	288,035		288,035	277,324	10,711
Tree warden	14,730		14,730	10,494	4,236
TOTAL PARKS AND RECREATION	302,765	-	302,765	287,818	14,947
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS					
Pensions	620,932	930	621,862	621,862	-
Fringe benefits	1,090,890		1,090,890	924,145	166,745
Social security and medicare	325,000		325,000	317,473	7,527
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	2,036,822	930	2,037,752	1,863,480	174,272

(Continued)

SCHEDULE 2
(3 of 3)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (CONCLUDED)

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS	FINAL BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE WITH FINAL BUDGET
INSURANCE	\$ 368,000	\$ 5,233	\$ 373,233	\$ 373,233	\$ -
OTHER	427,000	(216,692)	210,308	189,481	20,827
DEBT SERVICE					
Principal retirement	2,015,500	(9,931)	2,005,569	1,670,000	335,569
Interest	1,227,030	9,931	1,236,961	1,236,961	-
Fiscal agent fees	3,000		3,000		3,000
Legal costs	50,000		50,000		50,000
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	3,295,530	-	3,295,530	2,906,961	388,569
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	30,175,968	(10,030)	30,165,938	29,333,164	832,774
OTHER FINANCING USES					
Transfers out					
Bonded capital projects	250,000	110,000	360,000	360,000	-
Dog fund	58,359		58,359	58,359	-
Capital nonrecurring		165,500	165,500	165,500	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING USES	308,359	275,500	583,859	583,859	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES	\$ 30,484,327	\$ 265,470	\$ 30,749,797	\$ 29,917,023	\$ 832,774

(Concluded)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

REPORT OF TAX COLLECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

GRAND LIST YEAR	UNCOLLECTED TAXES JULY 1, 2004	CURRENT YEAR LEVY	LAWFUL CORRECTIONS		TRANSFERS TO SUSPENSE	ADJUSTED TAXES COLLECTIBLE	COLLECTIONS		UNCOLLECTED TAXES JUNE 30, 2005
			ADDITIONS	DEDUCTIONS			TAXES	INTEREST AND LIENS	
1988	\$ 2,821	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 326	\$ 3,404	\$ 3,730
1989	4,252			2,405		4,252	51	25	76
1990	7,599					7,599	715	1,609	2,324
1991	8,444					8,444			-
1992	8,595					8,595	135	275	410
1993	16,638					16,638	2,901	3,660	6,561
1994	18,786					18,786	3,082	3,892	6,974
1995	20,823					20,823	3,497	4,442	7,939
1996	24,249					24,249	3,370	4,161	7,531
1997	21,887					21,887	3,000	1,654	4,654
1998	22,069			162		21,907	3,227	1,979	5,206
1999	25,385			645	839	23,901	2,903	354	3,257
2000	28,127			583		27,544	1,565	1,084	2,649
2001	103,535			1,111	19,142	83,282	40,811	15,572	56,383
2002	273,766			4,108		269,658	172,489	39,845	212,334
TOTAL PRIOR YEARS	586,976			9,104	19,981	557,891	238,072	81,956	319,819
2003		28,332,772	281,474	127,062		28,487,184	28,300,785	73,799	186,399
TOTAL	\$ 586,976	\$ 28,332,772	\$ 281,474	\$ 136,166	\$ 19,981	\$ 29,045,075	\$ 28,538,857	\$ 155,755	\$ 28,694,612
									\$ 506,218

TOWN OF EASTON, CT 06612

